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VIC. HEADS FOR FIRST PSL TITLE

— By Andrew Dettre

With five rounds to go, the PSL title looks like going to Victoria for the first time in five seasons.

Having a game in hand, South Melbourne now have the edge on Sydney City whose recent results have been disappointing.

Earlier this year, when they acquired John Kosmina, Willie Murray, Jim Cant and Agenor Muniz, the Strikers appeared too strong for

their rivals.

But of the new signings, only Kosmina has really clicked.

Murray became a spare man, Muniz, after a few indifferent displays, was sidelined with cartilage injury and Cant turned out to be just an average utility player.

South Melbourne's fewer additions worked out better.

In John Stevenson they gained a

steady, thoughtful mid-fielder and in New Zealander Steve Wooddin they hit the jackpot.

Ironically, Stevenson was with the Slickers until this season, while Wooddin was also on the shopping list of the Sydney club.

They have probably decided against pursuing Wooddin when the chase for Rene Houseman began.

Now Wooddin is gone

— and Houseman isn't coming...

The survival battle at the bottom of the table is equally fascinating.

West Adelaide are almost certainly beyond redemption but for the second spot — or rather against it — the fight is still raging.

We think it will be filled by Blacktown — and on page 12 we try to explain why.



Blacktown's Jovan Djordjevic doing his "Sweeping up" last Sunday.



Blacktown defender Rassmussen (left) and Sydney City's Watson dance their ballet last week.

RALE PICKS A NEW WAR

Clearly under immense pressure, Blacktown coach Rale Rasic last Sunday had a verbal battle with his Sydney City counterpart Eddle Thomson.



Thomson — "He's a clown."

quiet Thomson: "You'd better worry about avoiding relegation than the next 10 years."

Then, later, in the dressing room, the laments continued.

Rasac: "We employed no offside trap and defensive tactics today, so what's Thomson's excuse now?"

"I love playing Sydney Slickers. If we played them 30 times, we'd not lose a match."

Thomson: "Rasac is a real clown. I never had any disagreement with any PSL coach — except for this bloke."

"If I had the same coaching experience he claims to have, I would have won 10 titles by now with the

It's a bit of a mystery how the two understood one another: Thomson's thick Scottish brogue and Rasac's harsh Serbian-accented English are not the easiest on the ear.

However, according to reliable linguists and keen students of phonetics, this is what they did say after the bitter 1-1 draw:

Rasac, leaving the field, yelling to Thomson:

"You wouldn't beat us if we played for the next 10 years."

The usually calm and



Rasac — "Not in 10 years."

teams and players he has had at his disposal — yet he's won none.

"Rasac should have

been very happy with the point he got today and left it at that instead of creating a circus."

Hunter ready for Lions

Marconi WILL have Ian Hunter available for Wednesday's Philips Cup match against Brisbane Lions.

The ASF has agreed to release Hunter, now in training camp with the World Youth Cup team, for the game.

Marconi have been under considerable strain in recent months with up to six of their players frequently away on national team duty.

Obviously, this has swayed the ASF to make a sporting concession in their favour.

The Cup match will start at 8pm at Marconi Stadium.

At 6pm, the Leichhardt v. Blacktown Youth League match will be played.

PSL PLANS NEXT WEEK

A Budget-style "lock up" has been arranged for journalists next week Wednesday at Sydney's Boulevard Hotel.

The occasion will be the tabling of a massive 300-page document prepared by ASF Marketing on the future of the Philips League.

The document is actually in two volumes: one deals with recommendations and the other carries supporting data.

All invited journalists — including 11 flown here from interstate, at ASF expense — will be given the books to read at 9am, behind locked doors.

After three hours of reading in monastery silence, the journalists will be given two hours to question members of the ASF executive.

The documents will be embargoed until 6pm that evening.

Amazingly, there have been no "leaks" on the contents of the documents — quite an achievement for the leak-prone ASF.

However, it's quite certain that the two main subjects of the books are the possibility of "summer soccer" and the feasibility of splitting the PSL into East and West groupings.

Other subjects likely to be touched on are indoor soccer and an

overall rationalisation of the League.

It is understood, from official sources, that Philips' sponsorship of the League is not on the agenda.

Philips Industries have yet to make a quite independent decision whether to continue sponsoring the PSL.

Still, the decisions of the ASF — based on the recommendations — are certain to influence Philips policy.

WORLD NEWS... WORLD NEWS...

GERMANS WORRY ABOUT LACK OF FIRE POWER



Paul Breitner with the 1981 German championship trophy.

Less than a year before the World Cup finals, West German manager Jupp Derwall is worried about his lack of class strikers.

Of course, he has Bayern Munchen's brilliant Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, Europe's Player of the Year — but with no suitable partners.

The gentle giant, Horst Hrubesch of Hamburg, looked like becoming a top class central striker — but he has gone off the boil since the 1980 European Championships.

Klaus Fischer, back from serious injury, has lost some of his old explosiveness — and is 32. Plus he's injured again.

Three others — Alois, Aligower and Borchers

— have some occasional sparks but are far from the old gold standard.

Another headache for Derwall is the latest feud between his star midfielders, Breitner and Schuster.

These two simply don't get on and their personal animosity disrupts the team's harmony.

But this is nothing new to German managers.

In the 1966 World Cup Helmut Schon, then in charge, had to be the peacemaker between Lothar Emmerich and Sigi Held.

Four years later, in Mexico, fullbacks Willi Schulz and Karl-Heinz Schnellinger hardly spoke to one another.

Then, in 1974, it was the bitter Overath-Nelzer feud as well as the clash between Beckenbauer and his two rivals, Breitner and Hoeness.



Former German star Schnellinger — his old feuds with team mates are still haunting.

Probably Derwall wouldn't mind a couple of minor skirmishes in his team between his players — if he had star performers.

But there are no Gerd Muellers, Uli Hoenesses, Uwe Seelers and even Rudiger Abramczyk on the horizon and West Germany will have to find at least two top strikers to partner Rummenigge if they want to do well, as they usually do, at the World Cup.

We thought you want to know how the Germans do it

Pre-season training with professional clubs is a tough, demanding business.

This is the weekly program of the West German Stuttgart Monday:

10am: Photo session in the stadium with the Press.

3.30pm: Light training.

Tuesday: 10am: Departure from clubhouse to training camp.

12pm: Arrival in training camp, lunch, rest.

3.30pm: Practice match with an amateur team.

Tuesday:

7.30am: One hour training; gymnastics, run through forest.

8.30am: Shower or bath, breakfast.

10.30am: Team talk.

11am: Conditioning training, 1 hour: gymnastics and run through forest.

12.30pm: Lunch.

1.30pm: Rest.

2.30pm: Departure for stadium.

3pm: Training: heading exercises, gymnastics, 5 v 2 games, shooting at goal from distances and from angles (25 minutes), game (no goalies, goals can be scored only with headers).

5.45pm: Return to training camp.

7.30pm: Dinner.

11pm: To bed.

Thursday:

10am: Training in stadium — all videotaped.

3pm: Repeat of morning session.

Friday:

10am: Training in stadium — freekick variations.

3pm: Attacking variations against massed defences.

Saturday:

8am: Gymnastics, run through forests.

Sunday:

Two running sessions.

COACHES IN GREECE

The big comings and goings in Greek soccer have started.

AEK, which finished second, have engaged as new coach former German international goalie Tilkowski — at \$200,000 a year, guaranteed by club president and millionaire Zafiroopoulos.

The Polish coach Gorski — former Polish national team boss — who has won two titles with both Panathinaikos and Olympiakos, is returning to Poland.

Panathinaikos' new boss will be Stefan Kovacs, until recently manager of Rumania and former boss of Ajax Amsterdam and the French national team.

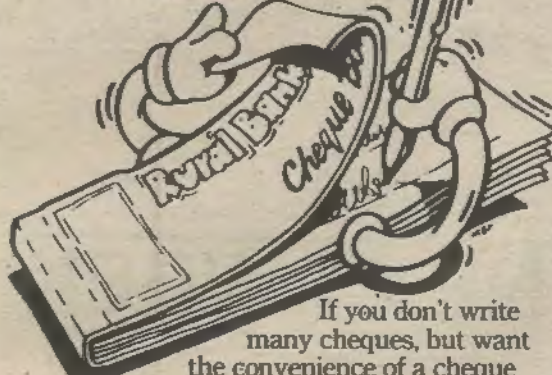
His predecessor with Panathinaikos, the Austrian Senekowitsch, will take over Olympiakos.

PAOK of Salonika were searching for weeks to find the successor of the Hungarian Lorant who died suddenly just before the end of the season, during a match.

At any cost, they wanted a German or German-trained coach and finally settled for Heinz Hoher whose last job was with Dusseldorf.

Meanwhile, AEK have lost two of their star players as the Yugoslav pair of Bajevic and Vlado have returned home to Velez Mostar.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

• Everton are inquiring about a top midfielder — and the man they would prefer is neighbouring Liverpool's Jimmy Case.

• Bob Latchford, who recently guested for Brisbane Lions, has been transferred by Everton to Swansea for \$250,000.

• Malta had their fine of \$5,000 for recent crowd disturbances cut in half because of the association's deep financial "problems."

• Heinz Luedi of FC Zurich is Switzerland's Player of the Year.

• Luis Cesar Menotti, Argentina's manager, has already selected the hotel where his team will stay in the first fortnight of the 1982 World Cup: it's at Montivoli, 24 km from the seaside resort of Alicante.

• The son of Garrincha, former Brazilian star winger, aged 19, will play for Belenenses in Portugal.

• A third Korean has arrived in the West German Bundesliga: he is Sang in Park, 28, who has joined Duisburg. (When will Aussie soccer produce three local players good enough for the West German first division? Or the second...)

• Cardiff have offered a player-manager post to their old son, Terry Yorath who is now with the Vancouver Whitecaps.

• Former Brazil, Juventus and Napoli hero Jose Altamini has signed on with the Swiss second division club Mendrisio — at age 42.

• Liverpool's England goalie Ray Clemence is likely to finish up with Southampton — on a \$650,000 transfer.

• Johan Cruyff, on a weekly contract with second division Spanish club Levante, earned \$400,000 in four months. His contract stipulates that he receives 50 per cent of all home gate takings...

• Hungarian champions Ferencvaros have signed international fullback Szanto from Diosgyor.

• Atletico Madrid have signed a new Argentinian striker, Juan Ramon Carrasco from Racing Buenos Aires.

• Dave Sexton, now with Coventry, would like to sign Manchester United's Micky Thomas — whom he had taken to United 18 months ago.

• After 10 years service, the brilliant Italian international Franco Causio is quitting Juventus and is about to join Udinese.

• Leeds' Argentinian ace Alex Sabella is back in England from his Argentinian holidays — no club there could or would pay the demanded \$450,000 transfer fee for him.

• In the USSR championship, a team can earn a point for a draw only 10 times in a season — thereafter a draw counts as a loss. So it's possible to have a 1-1 result after which a team gets one point — and the other none.

• Bayern Munchen won the special international tourney at Aachen, beating the Belgian FC Bruges 5-1 in the final.

• Former Dutch ace Robert Rensenbrink, 34, will continue his career in the second division French club Toulouse.

• Ex-Czech international Frantisek Vesely, 37, has been sacked by Rapid of Vienna.

• Real Madrid have been refused a \$3 million bank loan — because the famous club has debts exceeding \$10 million.

• Cosmos have forgiven their truant Dutch star Johan Neeskens and he will return to the first team soon.

• The suspension of Polish midfield ace Zbigniew Boniek will expire on August 8 and he will be eligible to play for his club and national team again.

• Bayern Munchen are excited about their new young striker Reinhold Mathy.

TAA fly the good sports.
It's better to fly with friends.



PREVIEW OF PSL -By Andrew Dettre

PHILIPS SOCCER LEAGUE



LAST CHANCE



Curran

Newcastle are plodding on respectably without any pretensions for greatness.

Sydney City's faltering near the finishing line is a big surprise: they have managed only three points in their last four matches.

If they fail to win in Newcastle — where they usually do very well — they can kiss the 1981 title goodbye.

Our tip: Sydney City 3-1.

GENEROUS



Wooddin

Surging towards Victoria's first PSL title, South Melbourne will have a very difficult match against the sparkling Preston.

Both teams scored generously last weekend — 11 goals between them — and this could be a highly entertaining game.

For vastly different reasons, both need the points desperately but we feel that the superior class of South Melbourne will give them the edge.

Our tip: South Melbourne 2-1.

DON'T BREAK IT...



Blacktown's Stuart Selva (left) seems to be getting a warning from Sydney City's Willie Murray as he's about to land on the ball.

CONTRAST



Woodhouse

Leichhardt's encounter with Brisbane City has little more than prestige at stake.

The hosts have more dash but the visitors are more methodical in their approach, thus setting the scene for an interesting contrast in styles.

Neither team is in a prolific goal-scoring mood and a lucky Sunday shot may decide the issue.

Our tip: Leichhardt 1-0.

OVERHAUL



Housseini

A mere four days after their Cup semifinal, Lions and Marconi clash again, this time in Brisbane.

Lions, with a grandstand finish, keep climbing up the table to what could be their best placing ever.

Marconi, on the other hand, stay in the doldrums, clearly a disorganised and dispirited lot ready for a major overhaul in 1982.

Our tip: Lions 2-1.

RELEGATED



McGregor

It's now 99% certain that West Adelaide will be relegated — a fact that should not surprise anybody who has seen them in the past two months or so.

Heidelberg are also way down the table but now, at last, they are playing some good stuff.

Len McKendry's method — football is certain to pull them through and if they can convert just a few of the chances they create, they can score a comfortable win.

Our tip: Heidelberg 3-0.

TRADEMARK



McBreen

Hit for six last weekend, Wollongong will have to put the trauma behind them when they meet Adelaide City.

The South Australians, once again, promised much more than they delivered — a traditional trademark of this talented but unreliable team.

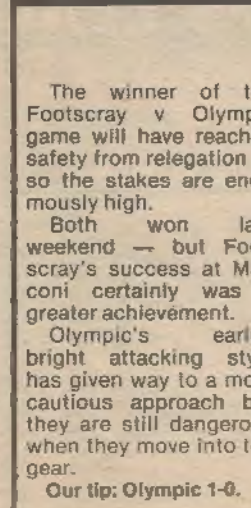
Wollongong, at home, are a tough proposition and it's almost certain that their battered defence will have a new look about it.

Our tip: 1-1 draw.



New Blacktown recruit Krstic (left) mesmerising John Spanos in Sunday's drawn 1-1 match.

DANGEROUS



Katholos

The winner of the Footscray v Olympic game will have reached safety from relegation — so the stakes are enormously high.

Both won last weekend — but Footscray's success at Marconi certainly was a greater achievement.

Olympic's earlier bright attacking style has given way to a more cautious approach but they are still dangerous when they move into top gear.

Our tip: Olympic 1-0.

LAPSE

Gradually dropping to a lethal position, Blacktown simply must beat Canberra to retain some hopes.

And today's Canberra cuts a sorry figure, losing games in succession, performing their traditional end-of-season collapse.

Blacktown have the grit and motivation to gain maximum points here against an opponent whose sole ambition may be to finish the year.

Our tip: Blacktown 2-1.



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TEAM OF ROUND 24

BOLAND (Footscray)			
SERVAGE (Blacktown)	PULLEN (Leichhardt)	JONES (Adelaide City)	R. O'SHEA (Canberra)
FARRELL (Preston)	COLE (Heidelberg)	BOYLE (Preston)	
BURROWS (Blacktown)	LUCCHESI (Preston)	LUJIC (Footscray)	

THIS WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS

• Heidelberg's new defender Don McLeod arrived last Friday from Nottingham Forest and is likely to get into the team for Sunday's match.

• Olympic's new recruit Jim Redfern made his debut on Sunday, coming on as a sub in the second half and impressing with his skill.

• Olympic's coach Doug Collins: "It was a relief to hear the final whistle..."

• Len McKendry, Heidelberg: "This was our best display for many weeks, if not months. We certainly didn't deserve to lose. The penalty decision was outrageous."

• Jimmy Rooney, Heidelberg: "We should have never lost this. In the first half we could have been leading 5-0."

patriotic, would not ignore their overseas visitors but with their beloved "Azzurris" playing at Spencer Park (only a mile away), the loyalties were in danger of being divided. Some good co-operation by both bodies finally saw both games going on at Ballymore. Unfortunately everything was not well on the field where the markings for both codes caused some confusion. The off-field arrangements apparently went along without a hitch.

• In a last minute switch, Queenslander C. Amos was appointed to referee the Olympic v Heidelberg match instead of P. Rampley — and nobody at the ground knew why.

• Sydney City have officially broken off negotiations with Argentinian ace Rene Houseman — and are likely to send his brother, Marcelo, home as soon as possible.

• Bob Dottavi, Adelaide City: "With six more league matches left it is still too early to write us off as championship contenders."

• A bubbling Joe Gilroy of Lions, pointing at his charges: "This team has fighting spirit and a feeling is there."

• A disconsolate George Murray: "You come back to 2-2 and then you give one away. There is no way we can carry on like that. Any team which gives away three goals does not play well."

• It was announced that Lotto has renewed its sponsorship with the Canberra Arrows for next season for an undisclosed but increased sum.

PHILIPS CUP

• Willie Wallace, Leichhardt: "This was the first time in months that I was able to field anything like my top team, and I'm happy to leave Adelaide with a point."

• The managements of the QRU and Brisbane City overcame a serious problem last weekend by putting on a joint promotion at Ballymore Stadium the home of Rugby Union in Queensland. The QRU were playing hosts to Italy and the local ethnic population were going to be forced into making a choice. Italians, always

West Adelaide v Adelaide City 1-0 (0-0)

West Adelaide: Crook, Maricic, Bozanic, Kambas, Forde, Topaz, McGregor, Honeyman, Smythe, Lorenson, Manecas.

Adelaide City: Perassin, Russell, B. Nyskohus, Perin, Jones, Villani, Marocchi, J. Nyskohus, Northcote, Mitchell, Mella.

Replacements: Brown (40m) for Topaz; Fashanu (75m) for Villani. Goal: 1-0 Bozanic (82m).

Referee: B. Harwood (WA). Crowd: 8200; Cautions: Northcote, Bozanic, Forde, Honeyman.

West Adelaide bucketed the form book by eliminating Adelaide City from the Philips Cup in an exciting semi final.

Vic Bozanic, the defender who netted the vital goal which clinched the PSL title for Westad in 1978, was again the hero.

His blazing 62nd minute effort carried Westad to the rich national cup final in Canberra in September.

The win belies Westad's poor league results, but the victory was hard fought against traditional local rivals Ad City.

TOP PSL SCORERS

Evans (Sth Melbourne).....	12
Boden (Syd City).....	10
P. Wilkinson (Brisbane City).....	9
Barnes (Syd City).....	8
Cole (Heidelberg).....	8
Mitchell (Adel. City).....	8
Ollerion (Preston).....	8
Christopoulos (Sth Melbourne).....	7
Kosmina (Syd City).....	7
Koussas (Olympic).....	7
J. Nyskohus (Adel. City).....	7
Paton (Heidelberg).....	7
Soper (Leichhardt).....	7
Souness (Syd City).....	7

PHILIPS LEAGUE 1981

	ADELAIDE GIANTS	ADELAIDE HAWKS	BLACKTOWN DEMONS	BRISBANE GLADIATORS	BRISBANE LIONS	CANBERRA ARROWS	FOOTSCRAY EAGLES	HEIDELBERG WARRIORS	LEICHHARDT STRIKERS	MARCONI LEOPARDS	MELBOURNE GUNNERS	NEWCASTLE KB	PRESTON RAMS	SYDNEY OLYMPIANS	SYDNEY SLICKERS	WOLLONGONG WOLVES
ADELAIDE GIANTS	*		0-0	1-0	3-2	1-0	1-3	3-1	0-0	0-1		4-1	1-0	3-1	0-1	1-2
ADELAIDE HAWKS	0-3	*	2-0			1-1			1-2	2-0	0-2	0-1	4-0		1-2	0-0
BLACKTOWN DEMONS	1-5	4-0	*	1-2	2-2				0-1	0-2	2-2	1-2	0-0		1-0	0-1
BRISBANE GLADIATORS		2-1	2-1	*	1-0	0-0	2-0	1-2	0-0	4-0		1-1		3-0	2-0	1-0
BRISBANE LIONS	2-1	3-1		1-0	*	1-0	4-0		0-0		2-0	0-1	2-1	1-1	4-3	1-1
CANBERRA ARROWS	0-0	1-2	2-2	3-0	2-3	*	5-0	1-5	0-1	0-0	2-2			2-1	2-0	
FOOTSCRAY EAGLES	1-1	1-1	2-0	1-0		3-1	*	2-2	2-1	1-2	1-2		2-1		1-0	1-1
HEIDELBERG WARRIORS	1-2	2-0		2-0		1-1		*			0-0	1-2	2-3	1-0	0-1	0-3
LEICHHARDT STRIKERS	3-0	1-0	3-2		0-0		2-0	2-2	*		1-1	2-1	1-1		0-1	1-0
MARCONI LEOPARDS	1-4	1-0		1-1	2-1	0-2	1-3	3-1		*		1-2	1-0	2-1	1-0	1-1
MELBOURNE GUNNERS	0-0	5-0	2-1		1-0		2-1	2-1	4-1	1-0	*	2-0		1-1	1-3	1-0
NEWCASTLE KB	2-2	4-2	1-1	0-2	1-1	0-1	3-0		4-1		0-0	*	4-0	1-2		1-1
PRESTON RAMS			2-3	1-1	1-1	0-1	3-0	0-2	3-1	0-0	1-1	3-1	*	3-1		6-0
SYDNEY OLYMPIANS	3-1	3-1	1-0	1-1		0-2	0-0	2-1	1-3	2-0	2-2		2-1	*	2-2	
SYDNEY SLICKERS		1-0	1-1	1-1	1-1	3-2	3-0	1-0		5-0		4-1	2-0	5-4	*	1-0
WOLLONGONG WOLVES		2-1	1-1	0-0	1-1		2-1	3-4	1-1		1-1	0-0	2-2	3-1		*

Soccer Terms explained:
No. 12



Throw-in.

When the ball crosses the side touch-line, it is "thrown" back into play by a player from the team opposing that of the player who last touched it. The thrower must face the field of play with both feet on or outside the touch-line, and "throw-in" the ball with both hands from behind and over his head.

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30.12.81

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AUSTRALIAN YOUTH LEAGUE

AIS v Newcastle 4-2 (Goals: McLaughlin 2, Wright, Farone; Law, Kirby).
Sydney City v Blacktown 2-1 (Goals: Vale, Fletcher; Pollard).
Olympians v Leichhardt 2-1 (Goals: Townson 2; McKie).
AIS v Marconi 4-1 (Goals: Wellborn 2, Ambrosino, Grino; P. Scheinflug).

STANDINGS:

AIS	23	13	3	7	64	40	28
LEICHHARDT	19	13	3	3	47	23	28
MARCONI	20	12	4	4	50	22	28
NEWCASTLE	20	9	7	4	38	33	25
SYDNEY CITY	20	9	7	5	50	28	23
OLYMPIANS	20	7	6	7	29	24	20
WOLLONGONG	21	7	2	12	24	47	18
BLACKTOWN	19	2	3	14	23	48	7
CANBERRA	18	1	1	16	13	73	3

TOP SCORERS:

McLaughlin (AIS).....	19
Scheinflug (Marconi).....	17
Wright (AIS).....	14
Stamp (Newcastle).....	13
Lee (Sydney City).....	12
Fletcher (Sydney City).....	11
Bradley (Leichhardt).....	10

PHILIPS LEAGUE 1981

	AGGREGATE								HOME								AWAY							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	±	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P		
1 SYDNEY CITY	24	14	4	6	41	25	+16	32	12	9	3	-	28	10	21	12	5	1	6	13	15	11		
2 STH. MELBOURNE	23	11	10	2	35	20	+15	32	12	9	2	1	22	8	20	11	2	8	1	13	12	12		
3 ADELAIDE CITY	24	11	6	7	37	26	+11	28	13	7	2	4	18	12	16	11	4	4	3	19	14	12		
4 BRISBANE CITY	24	10	8	6	27	18	+9	28	12	8	3	1	19	5	19	12	2	5	5	8	13	9		
5 LEICHHARDT	23	10	8	5	28	24	+4	28	11	6	4	1	16	8	16	12	4	4	4	12	16	12		
6 BRISBANE LIONS	23	9	9	5	33	24	+9	27	12	8	3	1	21	9	19	11	1	6	4	12	15	8		
7 CANBERRA	24	9	7	8	32	26	+6	25	12	4	4	4	20	16	12	12	5	3	4	12	10	13		
8 NEWCASTLE	24	9	7	8	34	32	+2	25	12	4	5	3	21	13	13	12	5	2	5	13	19	12		
9 WOLLONGONG	24	6	12	6	26	28	-2	24	11	3	7	1	16	13	13	13	3	5	5	10	15	11		
10. MARCONI	22	9	4	9	20	31	-11	22	12	6	2	4	15	16	14	10	3	2	5	5	15	8		
11. FOOTSCRAY	24	8	5	11	26	40	-14	21	12	6	4	2	18	12	16	12	2	1	9	8	28	5		
12 OLYMPIC	23	5	10	8	30	32	-2	20	11	3	5	3	15	15	11	12	2	5	5	15	17	9		
13 PRESTON	24	6	7	11	32	35	-3	19	12	5	4	3	23	12	14	12	1	3	8	9	23	5		
14 HEIDELBERG	22	7	4	11	32	35	-3	18	10	3	2	5	10	12	8	12	4	2	6	22	23	10		
15 BLACKTOWN	24	4	8	12	27	37	-10	16	12	3	3	6	15	18	9	12	1	5	6	12	19	7		
16 WEST ADELAIDE	23	4	3	16	20	41	-21	11	10	3	2	5	11	11	8	13	1	4	11	9	30	3		



WEEKEND GUIDE TO

PHILIPS LEAGUE



Milovanovic

BLACKTOWN CITY

Likely squad: 1. James, 2. Wheatley, 3. Pollard, 4. Milovanovic, 5. Pointer, 6. Selva, 7. Djordjevic, 8. Hormazabal, 9. Culina, 10. O'Donnell, 11. Manning, 12. Quarby, 13. Cuk, 14. Burrows, 15. Wallace, 16. Turner, 17. Jones, 18. Milosevic. Coach: R. Rasic.

SUNDAY, 3pm
TOONGABBIE

PAST RESULTS

1980: Blacktown v. Canberra 1-0.
1981: Canberra v. Blacktown 2-2.

CANBERRA CITY

Likely squad: 21. Hoszowski, 2. M. O'Shea, 3. Williams, 4. Cole, 5. J. O'Shea, 6. Stark, 7. R. O'Shea, 8. Byrne, 9. Valeri, 10. McLaren, 11. Brennan, 12. Gibson, 13. Purdie, 14. Massa, 15. Moutsopoulos. Coach: G. Murray.

REFEREE: T.DAVIES
Linesmen: G.Power, A.Morrison



McLaren

LEICHHARDT

Likely squad: 1. Woodhouse, 2. Skellern, 3. McAusland, 4. Pullen, 5. Wilson, 6. Coyne, 7. Soper, 8. Pirie, 9. Giampaolo, 10. Kafka, 11. O'Connor, 12. Butler, 13. Bradley, 14. Leyden, 15. McKie, 16. Morsello, 17. Watts, 18. Gray, 19. Casacchia, 20. Parkes. Coach: W.Wallace.

SUNDAY, 3pm
LAMBERT PARK

PAST RESULTS

1979: Leichhardt v. Brisbane City 1-2.
1980: Leichhardt v. Brisbane City 2-1.
1981: Brisbane City v. Leichhardt 0-0.

BRISBANE CITY

Likely squad: 1. Wishart, 2. Dunne, 3. Ratcliffe, 4. Tokesi, 5. Perry, 6. Gaffney, 7. Palinkas, 8. Pimblett, 9. Conner, 10. Low, 11. Caldwell, 12. Tripp, 14. Hamilton, 15. P. Wilkinson, 16. McVeigh, 17. B. Wilkinson, 18. Vincenzino, 20. Coe. Coach: G. Potter.

REFEREE: H.WITSCHGE
Linesmen: B.Fowler, P.Hafey



B. Wilkinson



Kafka

WOLLONGONG CITY

Likely squad: 1. Preston, 2. Willis, 4. Dunleavy, 5. Ainsworth, 6. Adam, 7. Smith, 8. Fleming, 9. Campbell, 10. Lathan, 11. Morlando, 12. Vilestra, 13. McBreen, 15. De Graaf, 16. Tredinnick, 17. Harrison, 18. Morton, 19. Fontana, 20. Kay, 21. Vardareff. Coach: K. Morton.

SUNDAY, 3pm
WOLL. SHOWGROUND

PAST RESULTS

Wollongong v. Adelaide City for the first time.
1981: Adelaide City v. Wollongong 1-2.

ADELAIDE CITY

Likely squad: 1. Marshall, 2. Russell, 3. B. Nyskohus, 4. Besir, 5. Jones, 6. Dods, 8. Perin, 9. Marocchi, 10. J. Nyskohus, 11. Mitchell, 12. Northcote, 13. Melia, 14. Miller, 15. Manou, 16. Villani, 17. Signore, 18. Fashanu, 22. Przybylski. Coach: B. D'Ottavi.

REFEREE: A.BOSKOVIC
Linesmen: K.Small, K.Tooke



J. Nyskohus



Adam

FOOTSCRAY

Likely squad: 1. Boland, 2. Hazabent, 3. Petrou, 4. Kyriakoulas, 5. Kondarlos, 6. Jovanovic, 7. Simic, 8. Illoski, 12. Licanin, 13. Petrou, 14. Belic, 15. Kakantonis, 16. Curovic, 17. Cozzella, 18. Milne, 19. Potter, 20. Verwelj. Coach: C. Cirkovic.

SUNDAY, 3pm
SCHINTLER RES.

PAST RESULTS

1977: Footscray v. Olympic 1-0.
1978: Footscray v. Olympic 2-3.
1979: Footscray v. Olympic 0-1.
1981: Olympic v. Footscray 0-0.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Likely squad: 1. Meier, 2. Moulis, 3. Cross, 4. Wilson, 5. Rowden, 6. Katholos, 7. Raskopoulos, 8. Cork, 9. Gavin, 10. Scott, 11. Jennings, 12. Ankudinoff, 13. Cotton, 14. Koussas, 15. Ziras, 16. Jamieson, 18. Laing, 20. Wilson. Coach: D. Collins.

REFEREE: D.YELLAND
Linesmen: S. Zoumas, D. Voutsinas



Meier



Boland

NEWCASTLE UTD.

Likely squad: 1. Dando, 2. Reaney, 3. Tredinnick, 4. Senkatski, 6. Drinkwater, 7. Sumner, 8. Mountford, 9. Jones, 10. Heys, 11. Buckley, 12. Mason, 14. Sneddon, 15. Curran, 16. Kamasz, 17. Storey, 18. Cowburn, 19. Stamp, 20. Gosling. Coach: R. Baartz.

SUNDAY, 2.30pm
INT. SPORTS CENTRE

PAST RESULTS

1978: Newcastle v. Sydney City 1-4.
1979: Newcastle v. Sydney City 0-1.
1980: Newcastle v. Sydney City 0-3.
1981: Sydney City v. Newcastle 4-1.

SYDNEY CITY

Likely squad: 1. Clarke, 2. Mullen, 3. Spanos, 4. O'Connor, 5. Bruce, 6. Murray, 7. Watson, 8. Barnes, 9. Boden, 10. Kosmina, 11. R. Houseman, 12. Cant, 13. M. Houseman, 14. Gomez, 15. Muniz, 16. Patikas, 18. Souness, 19. Trenter, 20. Pezzano. Coach: E. Thomson.

REFEREE: R.MEE
Linesmen: J.Judd, W.Jones



S.O'Connor



Reaney

WEST ADELAIDE

Likely squad: 1. Crook, 4. Lorenzoni, 5. Topaz, 6. Bozanic, 8. Manecas, 10. Honeyman, 11. McGregor, 12. Forde, 13. Haig, 14. Koulianos, 15. Marisic, 16. Brown, 17. Wright, 18. Smythe, 19. Kowalski, 20. Miller, 21. Hughes. Coach: P. Jaksa.

SUNDAY, 2.30pm
HINDMARSH

PAST RESULTS

1977: Westad v. Heidelberg 1-1.
1978: Westad v. Heidelberg 3-2.
1979: Westad v. Heidelberg 1-0.
1980: Westad v. Heidelberg 1-0.
1981: Heidelberg v. Westad 2-0.

HEIDELBERG

Likely squad: 1. Olver, 2. McMillan, 3. Tansey, 4. Yzendoorn, 6. Selemidis, 7. Rooney, 8. Campbell, 9. Paton, 11. Bozidakis, 12. Yankos, 13. McGrory, 14. Provan, 15. Taylor, 16. Cole, 18. Monagle, 20. Reilly. Coach: L. McKendry.

REFEREE: D.CAMPBELL
Linesmen: T.Martell, C.Barbo



Cole



Bozanic

BRISBANE LIONS

Likely squad: 1. Scanlan, 2. Ontong, 3. Niven, 4. Lindsay, 5. Bennett, 6. Hermiston, 7. Hogg, 8. McLean, 9. Ferris, 10. Millman, 11. McNaughton, 12. McGregor, 13. Latchford, 14. Ogden, 15. Daunt, 17. Wright, 18. Konstantinou, 19. Bryce, 20. Lowndes. Coach: J. Gilroy.

SUNDAY, 3pm
RICHLANDS

PAST RESULTS

1977: Lions v. Marconi 1-1.
1978: Lions v. Marconi 0-3.
1979: Lions v. Marconi 0-4.
1980: Lions v. Marconi 0-0.
1981: Marconi v. Lions 2-1.

MARCONI

Likely squad: 1. Maher, 2. Brogan, 3. Degney, 4. Henderson, 6. Byrne, 9. Krncevic, 10. Mariani, 11. Sharne, 12. Picioane, 13. Muir, 14. Housseini, 15. Calderon, 16. Tomasich, 17. Colusso, 18. Johnston, 20. Corry. Coach: R. Blanco.

REFEREE: D.NUGENT
Linesmen: A.Kibbler, D.Klose



Henderson



C.Low

STH. MELBOURNE

Likely squad: 1. Laumets, 2. V. Bannon, 3. Davidson, 4. Lutton, 5. Xanthopoulos, 6. Rogers, 7. Wright, 8. Christopoulos, 9. Cummings, 10. Evans, 11. Buljevic, 12. Kalafatis, 14. Campbell, 15. Stevenson, 16. Shirra, 17. Wooddin, 19. Blair, 20. Tsigaras. Coach: H. Margaritis.

SUNDAY, 3pm
MIDDLE PARK

PAST RESULTS

South Melbourne v. Preston for the first time.
1981: Preston v. South Melbourne 1-1.

PRESTON

Likely squad: 1. Kastner, 2. Rainey, 3. Beech, 4. Ollerton, 5. Higham, 6. Faulkner, 7. Cullen, 8. Flavell, 9. McMillan, 10. Petrovski, 11. Ward, 12. Brown, 13. Lucchesi, 14. Little, 15. Stoikos, 16. Whittle, 17. McCluskey, 18. Boyle, 19. Farrell, 20. Clayton, 21. Wilson. Coach: P. Ollerton.

REFEREE: J. JOHNSTON
Linesmen: M.Gaut, T.Strling



Petrovski



Lutton

SCOREBOARD

ADELAIDE CITY v LEICHHARDT 0-0

Adelaide City (4-3-3):

Russell (3) Marocchi (3) Northcote (3) Perin (4) Peressin (4) Melta (3) Jones (5) Mitchell (4) J. Nyskohus (3) B. Nyskohus (4) Fashanu (3) Butler (3) Giampaolo (3) Grey (3) Pullen (5) O'Connor (4) Hughes (4) Wilson (4) Woodhouse (4) Skellern (3) Kafka (4)

Leichhardt (4-4-2):

Replacements: Morcello (25m) O'Connor, Villani (80m) Northcote. Referee: C. Bambridge. Crowd: 3,100. Cautions: Parin, Pullen, Wilson, Hughes.

Mark is his name and mark was his game. We speak of Leichhardt's Mark Pullen whose leech-like attention to Justin Fashanu enabled Leichhardt to snare a point from the Giants.

With the Olympic Sports Field slushy and the rain pelting, Fashanu must have thought he was at Norwich.

But Pullen made certain he did not feel at home.

The treacherous surface made life difficult for all players, but as is often the case in the mud it was the attackers who were most restricted.

The draw was Adelaide City's third on the trot and it was their fifth league game in a

SLUSHY

row without a win.

Nevertheless, the Giants retained third spot on the league ladder and still have an outside chance of winning the championship.

So too have Leichhardt, and just as they did on their first Adelaide visit, they again looked a hard working, formidable unit.

Adelaide coach Bob D'Ottavi sprang a pre-match surprise by preferring young Steve Peressin to experienced keeper Jack Przybiski and Peressin justified his selection with a competent performance. Peressin, like his

Leichhardt counterpart Woodhouse, had few direct shots to save as the respective defences restricted both attacks to either long range drives or hurried them into wild attempts.

The match opened on a controversial note when in the third minute Socceroo teenager David Mitchell was floored in the penalty box and the Adelaide City players claimed a spot kick.

Melbourne referee Chris Bambridge rejected their collective entreaties, but their sense of injustice should have been appeased in the 20th minute when

Leichhardt too were denied a penalty.

Sebastian Giampaolo was the aggrieved party, when he was shoved by David Jones, but he maintained his balance and ran on, only to slam a drive against the cross bar.

Adcity mustered their best attacking efforts eight minutes from the final whistle.

However, the Strikers survived in the mud and rain and the match slithered to its inevitable goalless draw.

— Allan Crisp

MARCONI v FOOTSCRAY 1-3 (0-1)

Marconi (4-4-2)

Degney (3) Johnson (3) Krncevic (3) Mariani (4) Byrne (4) Maher (3) Henderson (4) Jankovics (3) Hunter (3) Brogan (3) Sharne (3) Lujic (5) Kakantonis (4) Verweij (3) Kyriakoulas (3) Kondarlos (4) Boland (5) Cozzella (3) Ilioski (4) O'Reilly (3) Jovanovic (4) Milne (3)

Footscray (4-4-2)

Replacements: Belic (8m) for Cozzella, Tomasich (65m) for Henderson, Picioane (62m) for Johnson. Goals: 0-1 Verweij (7m), 0-2 Cozzella (47m) 1-2 Jankovics (79m), 1-3 Lujic (84m). Referee: R. Lorenc. Crowd: 3,250. Cautions: Kakantonis.

For the umpteenth time this season, Marconi failed to make some sort of impression in front of their own supporters going down 3-1 to Footscray.

With the only stake of the game being "prestige", Marconi certainly failed badly as they were outclassed and outgunned by a superbly drilled Footscray.

From the first kick-off, the visitors to the Marconi Stadium went straight, to get a hold of the midfield which they seemed to win easily and from there methodically started to rip their opponents apart.

Jovanovic and Ilioski were the masters in midfield starting con-

stant attacking moves which kept Marconi under pressure throughout.

However, there is little doubt that the man of the match was Lujic who not only scored the last goal but also engineered both other goals scored by Verweij and Cozzella.

Gary Byrne, the Marconi midfielder tried hard to get some sort of cohesion in the side but had little support from Mark Jankovics and Stuart Johnson who time and time again were caught out of position.

One can't help wonder if these two talented players were playing the wrong role against a

superbly drilled but much less talented side.

Saying that, it shouldn't take anything away from the winners as they earned their points with skill and enthusiasm by never allowing Marconi to balance itself in any way.

Hardly seven minutes passed when Footscray put their first goal on the board.

Quick thinking by Lujic helped to capitalise on a defence misunderstanding by "stealing" the ball off Maher and Degney.

Like a flash, he sent a precision pass to Johan Verweij who made no

mistake from only 10 metres.

But it was after the interval that the Leopards were sunk. Lujic struck again only after two minutes, he dribbled past two defenders then sent in another superb pass to Cozzella who had the easiest of tasks to put it away.

For a few minutes, it looked that Marconi will pull the game out of the fire as they surged forward in attack, but it was not to be as Lujic struck again, this time scoring with a 10-metre shot from a pass by Jovanovic.

— Charles Spiteri

CANBERRA v BRISBANE LIONS 2-3 (0-2)

Canberra (4-3-3)

Matsopoulos (3) Cole (3) MacLaren (3) Hoszowski (4) Massa (4) Gibson (2) Valeri (3) M. O'Shea (3) J. O'Shea (4) Brennan (3) R. O'Shea (4) Low (4) Ferris (3) Bennett (3) Daunt (4) McLean (3) Scanlan (3) Williamson (4) Hogg (3) Hermiston (3) Ontong (4)

Lions (4-3-3)

Replacement: Ogden (65m) for McLean. Goals: 0-1 Williamson (1m), 0-2 (Bennett (48m), 1-2 Valeri (60m), 2-2 R. O'Shea (72m), 2-3 Williamson (80m). Referee: B. Mee. Crowd: 1,500. Cautions: None.

Canberra's recent poor form combined with the bitterly cold weather was no enticement for the spectators to flock to Bruce Stadium.

Consequently, the smallest crowd to see a PSL game at the National Stadium was on hand to witness Canberra's third consecutive defeat in what can now be described as a perennial end of season fade-out.

Spectators had hardly warmed their seats when the Lions took the lead.

A Hermiston freekick looped into the area, Ferris chested the ball down and Williamson fired goalward from only four metres.

The early set-back seemed to galvanise the

locals into action.

Canberra gradually began to create chances but hasty shooting and a vigilant Lions defence seemed set to deny Canberra an equaliser.

For Brisbane Craig Low was always a menace on the wing and he combined well with the bulky Daunt and adroit Williamson to give Lions attacking skill which had been missing earlier in the season.

Canberra seemed set for an equaliser when the Lions mauled them once more. From a corner kick the ball was smashed goalwards by a fine Bennett header.

However, the Arrows kept pushing on and deservedly narrowed the defeat.

After a short corner the ball fell to Valeri who bounced the ball off his thigh and cannoned a 15-metre rocket past Scanlan.

Buoyed on by the cheers of the now vocal crowd, the Arrows found renewed zeal.

The Lions were under pressure and when Matsopoulos crossed to Robert O'Shea and he nodded the ball for the equaliser the Arrows believed that a Houdini-like victory was possible. When Canberra's

defenders Massa and Mike O'Shea deliberated about what to do with the ball, Williamson dashed between them to spirit it away and slot his shot past the despairing Hoszowski, a fairytale ending for Canberra was denied.

Joe Gilroy, coach of Lions, was beaming with joy after recording the first Lions away victory since ironically they had defeated Canberra 4-2 at Bruce Stadium last season.

— Peter Kunz



SOUTH MELBOURNE v WEST ADELAIDE 5-0 (3-0)

South Melbourne (4-3-3)

Bannon (4) Stevenson (4) Cummings (4) Blair (5) Laumets (3) Xanthopoulos (4) Shirra (3) Wooddin (4) Buljevic (4) McGregor (3) Honeyman (4) Bozanic (4) Brown (3) Crook (3) Lorenzoni (3) Marwe (3) Kambas (3) Manecas (3) Smythe (4) Maricic (4)

West Adelaide (4-3-3)

Replacements: I. McKie (65m) for Lorenzoni, C. Gregson (65m) for V. Smythe. Referee: D. Voutsinas. Crowd: 4,000. Goals: 1-0 Blair (4m), 2-0 Evans (19m), 3-0 Evans (25m), 4-0 Stevenson (47m), 5-0 Evans (60m). No cautions.

South Melbourne had the assistance of a strong breeze during the first half of what was to prove to be a very exciting display of slick soccer.

The early speed shown by South gave Steve Blair the opportunity to advance behind the strikers, and his strong drive was mishandled by Crook with the ball skidding in under him in the 4th minute.

West Adelaide came forward on the right wing, well led by Graham Honeyman, and were to be highly commended for their smart work without reward.

South, showing more adventure this time out,

were putting heavy pressure on West's defensive middle, and Evans, Wooddin and Cummings were the liveliest trio, with Evans crashing through with an unsavable shot at 19 minutes.

Wooddin put in a fiery shot across goal which was deflected into goal by Evans at the 25th minute.

The wind had died down, and the game was kept interesting by the commendable enterprise shown by West Adelaide.

The South defence stood firm and there was

little that West could produce to change the score-line.

A Cummings shot from point blank range was handled well by Martyn Crook, and Buljevic was producing some of his tricks to entertain the fans.

I thought that West were well served by Maricic, Smythe, Bozanic and Honeyman throughout, and only need more skill to assist the younger brigade to succeed in future.

The second half opened on a sparkling note, when Shirra

pushed the ball to Wooddin, who relayed to Evans for that player to lay on for Stevenson to crack home a glorious goal at the 47th minute.

This was Wooddin's period when he shone out, but was unfortunate when he tried to score.

However, right on the hour Evans profited by the sterling skills of Wooddin.

The rest of the game saw many scoring shots missed out, but I felt that South had come of age in the goalscoring department.

I see no reason why they should not be a serious challenge to the flag.

— Jock Stephen



WESTFIELD SCOREBOARD

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PRESTON v WOLLONGONG 6-0 (2-0)

Preston (4-3-3)			Wollongong (4-4-2)		
Rainey (4)	Petrovski (4)	Wilson (4)	McMillan (5)	Boyle (5)	Beech (4)
Flavell (4)	Farrell (5)	Lucchessi (6)	Boyle (5)	Brown (5)	
Whittle (5)					
	Lathan (4)	Fontana (2)	McBreen (2)	Kay (2)	
Tredinnick (4)	Adam (3)	Dunleavy (3)	Fleming (3)		
Ainsworth (3)	Bertogna (3)	Vardareff (4)			

Replacements: De Graaf (71m) for Kay, Cullen (78m) for Flavell, Ollerton (78m) for Boyle.
Goals: 1-0 Lucchessi (11m), 2-0 Lucchessi (23m), 3-0 Whittle (59m), 4-0 Brown (75m), 5-0 Fontana (80m, o.g.), 6-0 Cullen (89m).
Referee: S. Mellings. Crowd: 3,000. Cautions: Nil.

Preston and South Melbourne provided the best possible build up for a match by scoring 11 goals between them only a week before the keenly contested derby between the two clubs to be played at Middle Park.

While Preston will be the underdog the side now has regained its former confidence and is capable of stretching the Gunners to the limit and perhaps even pulling off a shock win.

But even if they lose to the championship favourites the Rams should have no problem steering well clear of the relegation zone on the form they displayed on Sunday.

SPIRITED

The side dictated terms from the start and with excellent prompting from the midfield proceeded to open big gaps on the left wing to make the Wollongong defence look unusually vulnerable.

The Claude Lucchessi — Doug Brown combination up front laid the foundation for the victory in the opening half hour.

Lucchessi opened the scoring after 11 minutes shooting low past Natch Vardareff following an attack built up by Alan Whittle and Peter Boyle.

Brown had a goal disallowed for offside

play before taking the corner kick which brought Preston's second after 23 minutes.

Lucchessi rose to meet the inswinging kick with a header which gave the keeper no chance.

Before half time the pair again combined to create another chance but Lucchessi's final shot hit the foot of the upright and was scrambled clear.

"We never gave up but everything Preston touched ended in the back of the net," he said.

Indeed, the Wolves started the second half in spirited fashion and with the wind at their

back pinned Preston in defence for 15 minutes.

But their revival was brought to an abrupt end by a lucky goal from Whittle who latched onto a clearance for a breakaway attack and then lobbed over Vardareff for the third goal.

After that Brown got his name on the scoresheet running on to a fine pass from Boyle and then shooting home off the inside of the post to register the fourth goal.

Glen Fontana put into his own net in an attempt to clear a Robert Cullen shot for the fifth and right on full time the two substitutes Cullen and Ollerton combined to score the sixth.

— Paul Galea

OLYMPIC v HEIDELBERG 2-1 (1-0)

Olympic (4-3-3)			Heidelberg (4-4-2)		
Moulis (3)	Rowden (3)	P. Wilson (5)	Wilson (3)	Scott (4)	
Raskopoulos (4)	Katholos (3)	Ziros (4)	Cross (3)	Jennings (3)	
Koussas (3)					
	Paton (4)	Tasevski (3)	Campbell (4)	McMillan (4)	
Selemidis (4)	Rooney (3)	Cole (5)			
Yankos (3)	Provan (3)	Yzendoorn (4)			
	Oliver (4)				

Replacements: Bozikas (56m) for Tasevski, Redfern (63m) for Jennings, Jamieson (79m) for Raskopoulos (79m).
Goals: 1-0 K. Wilson (10m) 2-0 K. Wilson (47m, pen). 2-1 Campbell (68m).
Referee: C. Amos. Crowd: 5,600. Caution: Raskopoulos.

The law of percentages has worked out once again: Olympic, at the losing end after so many bright displays, won this encounter with enormous luck — and an appalling refereeing error.

Although back to full strength, Olympic were stuttering throughout most of the match while Heidelberg were putting on something close to their best and most methodical display.

Olympic's nicely worked first goal, from a Raskopoulos freekick via Scott and Wilson, stung Heidelberg into action and they went on to tear the Rowden-Ziros defensive duo to pieces.

Gary Cole, lying deep, seemed to be in an

STUTTERING

irresistible mood: like a thawed out dinosaur with energy conserved through several eons, he galloped through the field unchecked and uncheckable.

Three times he set up Jamie Paton with the most delectable chances but the stocky little Scot's shots weren't accurate enough.

Just before halftime, after a throw-in, Paton's goalmouth flick hit the post and one sensed that this was not going to be his day.

The second half started sensationally. With everyone expecting Heidelberg to take over

completely, Olympic were given a gift-wrapped penalty for a blatant dive by the ever alert Mark Koussas; Kenny Wilson, as always, calmly converted.

The Heidelberg onslaught intensified: Tasevski shot over the bar, Paton lost a ball through his legs and then, finally, Campbell rammed home a shot after a glorious, swift move involving Oliver, Bozikas and Paton.

Four minutes later Selemidis almost repeated the act but the ball was scrambled away from the line.

The Olympic attacks looked harmless: play was dictated by Heidelberg, moving sweetly and incisively.

Towards the end, fittingly, came the climax: in the 84th and 85th minutes, Paton had two more chances.

First he chested down a Bozikas cross and volleyed it into the petrified goal, then, from a bad angle, sent a hot shot towards the far corner which Wilson fingertipped around the post.

But the siege was not yet over. In the 92nd minute Rooney, a quiet figure for most of the match, was put through on the left and his angled low shot zoomed across the goalmouth.

— Andrew Dettre

SYDNEY CITY v BLACKTOWN 1-1 (0-0)

Sydney City (4-3-3)			Blacktown (5-3-2)		
Cant (3)	Robertson (4)	Clarke (4)	O'Connor (2)	Spanos (4)	
Patikas (2)	Souness (3)	Kosmina (3)	Barnes (3)	Murray (4)	
Watson (3)					
	Burrows (5)	Jones (4)	Krstic (3)	Selva (4)	
O'Donnell (4)	Hormazabal (3)	Djordjevic (3)	Cuk (3)		
Rasmussen (3)	Pointer (3)	James (4)			

Replacements: Wheatley (60m) for Cuk, Boden (61m) for Patikas.
Goals: 1-0 Souness (47m) 1-1 Jones (61m).
Referee: K. Small. Crowd: 1,452. Cautions: Kosmina, James.

If the Slickers don't retain their PSL title, they can blame it on the three points lost to Blacktown.

Blacktown gave a miss to their notorious offside trap and switched instead to a vigorous man-to-man marking, with Djordjevic sweeping behind the four fullbacks.

Overall the draw was a fair result. Sydney City did have more chances but can still be happy that Brian O'Donnell didn't score near the end when he had three good chances.

In the first five minutes Kosmina headed high from a Watson freekick, then Watson's left-footer sailed just high.

VIGOROUS

The 23rd minute belonged to the two goalkeepers. First Clarke did well to save a good header from Burrows, then James produced a reflex save to push out a vicious shot from Kosmina.

Clarke saved later again a low curling ball from a Djordjevic freekick.

Robertson sent a clever ball into an open space on the right, Cant intercepted but wasted his cross.

Burrows, at the other end, did some great runs on the left; after one he curled the ball in to Selva but O'Connor

cleared the danger. Souness broke the deadlock with a scorching 30-metre low shot just after half time.

Ten minutes later Barnes missed a golden opportunity when he only pushed a ball weakly into the goalmouth from a defence-splitting pass by Willie Murray.

A minute later Blacktown levelled the score. Burrows stole a loose ball, held on till Selva made a run on the right and crossed. Peter Jones, unmarked, delicately headed it past the diving Clarke.

After a brief spell of inactivity, the Slickers

could have scored following two freekicks but Watson shot high and Barnes wide.

In an ugly incident involving Kosmina and Djordjevic, James ran some 30 metres to get involved and bookings resulted.

Kosmina and James got booked though somebody who runs 30 metres to retaliate may deserve something, too, perhaps an early shower.

The last 10 minutes belonged to Blacktown, especially O'Donnell whose shots threatened: once he missed narrowly, once he hit the post.

James did well again to block a mean low shot from Barnes at the other goal.

— Joe Marlon

BRISBANE CITY v NEWCASTLE UTD 1-1 (0-0)

Brisbane City (4-3-3)			Newcastle (4-3-3)		
Caldwell (3)	Perry (3)	Wishart (3)	Palinkas (30m)	Connor (70m)	
Hamilton (3)	Ratcliffe (3)	Wilkinson (3)	Gaffney (4)		
Connor (2)	Pimblett (3)	Gaffney (4)	Wilkinson (3)		
	McVeigh (3)				
Kamasz (3)	Mountford (3)	Heys (3)	Senkalski (3)	Reaney (3)	
Jones (3)	Sumner (3)	Mason (3)			
Tredennick (3)	Drinkwater (3)	Dando (3)			

Replacements: Palinkas (30m) for Connor.
Goals: 0-1 Sumner (57m), 1-1 Hamilton (70m).
Referee: P. Rampley (NSW). Crowd: (at kick-off) 4,200. Caution: Caldwell.

This game was played on a rugby union ground as a curtain-raiser to the Queensland v Italy rugby union game.

Although both sets of administrators have to be applauded for their efforts it must be said that it took both sets of players most of the first half to get on terms with the multi coloured line markings.

This was especially true on the touch lines and goal lines as there were two choices to be made, and under pressure this was no easy task.

The teams struggled from the first whistle and after Gaffney went close in the second minute

with a 20-metre grounder we had to wait 34 minutes for another attempt at goal, a McVeigh shot, made on the run, that whistled just wide.

In between these two incidents both midfields struggled to get some resemblance of control but with the ball proving difficult to handle on a bumpy pitch this too was beyond the players.

Half-time was a blessing and after the break we didn't have too long to wait for the goal the game needed.

Palinkas chipped a

ball over Dando but Reaney raced in to clear off the line.

Newcastle attacked and Mountford set up Sumner but he blasted high over.

A minute later he made amends when he ran on to a Kamasz corner and nodded a simple goal.

The game came to life and after sustained City pressure Hamilton latched on to a bouncing ball and crashed it in from close range.

Gaffney was working very hard for the locals



Last chance for Polonia

FIRST DIVISION

—By Charles Spiteri

The Top Four battle is far from over, with Polonia making Sutherland officials glance nervously over their shoulders in recent weeks.

The fight comes to a suitable climax this week when the two teams clash in what is the most important game of the round.

Sutherland struggled to a 1-0 win over North Sydney two weeks ago and they were held by Auburn last week.

Polonia have not been winning as often as they would have liked, drawing three of their last four games.

Both teams have strong defences and potentially dangerous attacks.

Victory should go to the team which commits the least mistakes and while Polonia are more confident at home, we can see Sutherland taking a point from Chopin Park.

We tip a 1-1 draw.
St. George officials privately concede that their hopes for the title have been dashed and it will take a minor miracle to rob Croatia of the premiership.

But they are determined not to allow any possible Croatia slip-ups go unpunished and will stay close on their heels for the remaining rounds.

This week the Saints play Riverwood, who have been having mixed results recently.

Their young side, with several players only recently having got into the first team, will face a tough battle against a St. George who should be able to recover from last week's loss.

We tip St. George 2-0.
Premiers-elect Croatia travel to Queanbeyan this week for a match that has Saints officials pray for divine intervention.

Nevertheless, Croatia will be flat out to make certain that their path to the coveted title is not obstructed.

Monaro suffered a morale-crushing defeat against Bankstown last weekend but at home they usually put on a better show.

Their forward line has lacked a lot of variety this season, relying heavily on the Irish Ian Heywood. If the Croatia defence bottles him up, then Monaro will be severely handicapped.

We tip Croatia to win 2-0.

Sutherland's slip-ups have resulted in the pressure being taken off Melita over the past

month or so and as a result they have suffered a little from the sin of complacency.

Last week they should have finished off Polonia, weakened by a sending off, but instead allowed Polonia the chance to equalise.

This week Melita tackle Canterbury, a team which is far from settled and a little put off by disputes within the club.

Melita should once again have the midfield combination of Stoddart and Farrugia back on deck, after Stoddart's

illness and Farrugia's suspension.

We think Melita will have too much all-round ability and should take both points in a 3-1 result.

Avala leapfrogged away from the relegation battle with a stunning 4-0 win last week over North Sydney and will be hoping for another win this week to move them right out of trouble.

Auburn, however, are also bound to be wary of their position and a tough battle is expected.

We predict a draw here, with only a couple of goals in it—a 1-1.

Manly have been playing tremendously well recently and Norths will have to beware, lest they receive yet another hammering.

These two sides have had tough, physical battles over the past couple of seasons and with Norths now in trouble, Manly can expect stiff resistance.

Tight marking on Terry Smith has reduced his own goal-scoring rate but has created space for his fellow strikers, something Norths will have to watch.

We tip Manly 2-0.

Bankstown officials were shaking their heads in total disbelief when they heard that Avala had taken Norths to the cleaners last weekend.

Bankstown's win over Monaro was a morale-booster but in the end the result didn't help them much, as they are still three points behind Parramatta.

This week they play Auburn in a match that Bankstown officials say is going to be extremely hard. They fear the Thursday night clash with Riverwood could take its toll.

Auburn are banking on a 'safety first' policy and as a result we predict a cautious 1-1.

On Thursday evening Riverwood and Bankstown meet at the Seymour Shaw ground.

Whereas Riverwood have little to lose or gain, Bankstown have everything to play for and we feel they may try and put in one last huge effort to get the points needed to avoid relegation.

Riverwood's youngsters have been playing well, getting the feel of the State League but Bankstown's desperation may prove too much for their enthusiasm.

We tip Bankstown to win 2-1.



Melita's Mike Berry

Referee: D. Hennis; Crowd: 9,300; Caution: Vidaic.

Melita v Polonia 1-1 (0-0)
Melita: Greedy, McCoy, Loxley, Daley, McPherson, Berry, Davini, Stoddart, D. Allan, Ross, Jones (Martinez 60m).

Polonia: Kalinowski, Isherwood, Jiersa, R. Budini (Rylands 88m), Galas, Sookee, Pahor, Gardowski, Divani, Szobczyk, A. Budini.
Goals: 1-0 Berry (pen, 70m), 1-1 A. Budini (85m).
Referee: T. Davies; Crowd: 850; Sent off: Rylands.

Parramatta v Manly 0-3 (0-2)
Parramatta: Donovan, Fairclough, Bigland, Bates, Lackey, Roughley, Duchiewicz, McKenzie (Roden 70m), Herron, Montgomery, Brizuela (Mitchell 78m).
Manly: Ellis, K. Falconer, Doyle, Emery, Stocks, Geohagan, Jack, P. Falconer, Smith, Reagan, Fox.
Goals: 0-1 Reagan (37m), 0-2 Jack (39m), 0-3 Reagan (71m).
Referee: T. Seacoy; Crowd: 180; Caution: Fairclough, Stocks, Bigland; Sent off: Mitchell.

Manly v Polonia 0-0
Manly: Ellis, K. Falconer, Doyle, Emery, Stocks, Riley, Jack, Stuart (P. Falconer 56m), Smith, Reagan (Geohagan 57m), Palamara.

Polonia: Kalinowski, Isherwood, Jiersa, R. Budini, Galas, Sookee (Pahor 72m), Lemanczyk (Rylands 88m), Gardowski, Divani, Szobczyk, A. Budini.
Referee: P. Rampley; Crowd: 250.

Bankstown v Inter Monaro 2-1 (1-1)
Bankstown: Patterson, Radovack, Usher, Rootsey, Greg Lynch, Rea, Glen Lynch, Nocera, Sirelli, Beater, Fergusson (Farthing 74m).
Monaro: Caputo, Francis, Crawford, Noble, Santolin, Falzon, Valeri, Charles, Link, Salgado, Heywood.

Goals: 1-0 Nocera (30m), 1-1 Charles (32m), 2-1 Beater (85m).
Referee: T. Boskovic; Crowd: 150.

Sutherland v Auburn 0-0
Sutherland: Haynes, Hesford, Cashman, Donnelly, Del Forno, Rogers, Grooms, Meadows, Murphy (T. Bush 85m), Beggs, P. Bush.

Auburn: Bowman, McInerney, Bates, Prgomella, Sullivan, MacDonald, Quigley, Bertram, Pondakas (R. Brown 60m), Daley, Izalt.
Referee: G. Warne; Crowd: 550; Caution: MacDonald.

Croatia v St. George 3-0 (2-0)
Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Pagano, M. Kovacic, Coleman, Vidaic, H. Silva, Steven, M. Silva, Borges, Hensman (Parker 79m).
St. George: Fraser, Duarte, Terry, Barton, Rylands, MacDonald, Davies, Stone, Campbell, Kanacki (Walker 80m), Marton.

Goals: 1-0 M. Silva (35m), 2-0 M. Silva (40m), 3-0 M. Silva (85m).
Referee: G. Warne; Crowd: 550; Caution: MacDonald.

Croatia v St. George 3-0 (2-0)
Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Pagano, M. Kovacic, Coleman, Vidaic, H. Silva, Steven, M. Silva, Borges, Hensman (Parker 79m).
St. George: Fraser, Duarte, Terry, Barton, Rylands, MacDonald, Davies, Stone, Campbell, Kanacki (Walker 80m), Marton.

Goals: 1-0 M. Silva (35m), 2-0 M. Silva (40m), 3-0 M. Silva (85m).
Referee: G. Warne; Crowd: 550; Caution: MacDonald.

Croatia v St. George 3-0 (2-0)
Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Pagano, M. Kovacic, Coleman, Vidaic, H. Silva, Steven, M. Silva, Borges, Hensman (Parker 79m).
St. George: Fraser, Duarte, Terry, Barton, Rylands, MacDonald, Davies, Stone, Campbell, Kanacki (Walker 80m), Marton.

Goals: 1-0 M. Silva (35m), 2-0 M. Silva (40m), 3-0 M. Silva (85m).
Referee: G. Warne; Crowd: 550; Caution: MacDonald.

Croatia v St. George 3-0 (2-0)
Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Pagano, M. Kovacic, Coleman, Vidaic, H. Silva, Steven, M. Silva, Borges, Hensman (Parker 79m).
St. George: Fraser, Duarte, Terry, Barton, Rylands, MacDonald, Davies, Stone, Campbell, Kanacki (Walker 80m), Marton.

The match of the round was without doubt the Croatia-St. George encounter.

With so much at stake, the crowd of just under 10,000 was not unexpected and they were treated to some good attacking soccer from the two best sides in the State League.

Croatia opened far more confidently and pressed St. George for much of the first half.

The first blow to St. George's title hopes came in the 35th minute when a slick Croatia move down the right ended with Marcos Silva hammering away Peter Hensman's cross.

Five minutes later the match was all over bar the shouting when a defensive error in the St. George area allowed Marcos Silva to steal the ball and beat Fraser.

In the second half the Saints stormed back into the match and it was Croatia's turn to weather some anxious moments.

But the Saints could not find a way past Steve Watson and in the 85th minute Marcos Silva completed his hat-trick and applied the coup de grace with a breakaway goal.

Parker dashed off on the right, and tested Fraser with a cross-cum-shot that rolled from his hands into the path of Silva.

The roar of the massed voices of Croatia fans was enough to tell nearly the whole of the western suburbs what the score was, and it looks like the red, white and blue will once again drape the premiership trophy for the fourth time in five years.

Manly picked up three points from the weekend, first with a draw against Polonia and then a comfortable win over Parramatta.

Saturday's match was a defence orientated game with few highlights.

SILVA'S THREE

But the moments of action were worth remembering, especially Ellis' brilliant 59th minute save from Lemanczyk's shot and the unbelievable miss by Reagan in the 76th minute.

Manly had better luck against Parramatta who never recovered from the double blow between the 37th and 39th minutes.

After half an hour Manly were clearly getting on top and then after 37 minutes Stuart Reagan turned on a ball in the 6-metre area and whacked it home.

Two minutes later a Smith inspired attack saw Keith Falconer smack the ball at Donovan.

He couldn't hold the ball and it rolled to Jack who put it away.

In the second half Reagan got his second goal when he beat the off-side trap and rounded the desperately lunging Donovan before slipping the ball home.

Polonia's resilience came to the fore in their draw against Melita, grabbing the equaliser in the last five minutes.

Melita scored first through a Mike Berry penalty when Don Allan was fouled by Rylands.

Referee Tim Davies considered the foul serious enough to warrant a red card and his action is certain to be applauded by opponents of the so-called 'professional' fouls.

Polonia seemed to be unworried by the loss of their substitute and in the second period played some nice soccer.

In the 85th minute the equaliser arrived via a move between Isherwood and Sookee which ended when Anito Budini planted the ball past Greedy.

Bankstown gave their

fans and officials a glimmer of hope with a sterling performance against Monaro.

Performances such as this could help them avoid the big drop, but the pressure over the next few weeks will be immense.

Bankstown were in command from the outset and it was a great relief when John Nocera scored.

Most officials feared that the pressure would turn to frustration and the side would once again have nothing to show for their efforts.

But a great cross from Ferguson was headed home in spectacular fashion by Nocera.

Monaro caused a bit of a surprise when barely a minute later Aldo Charles hammered home a tremendous shot from all of 40 metres.

In the second period both sides had chances, but it was another great diving header that turned the tide.

John Nocera supplied the cross this time and John Beater was on the end to send a rocket past Caputo.

Sutherland and Auburn battled out a tough but rather uneventful draw at Seymour Shaw which saw Mal Haynes safe in goal but Sutherland's strikers couldn't get their act together.

Auburn were once again inspired by John MacDonald but were unable to break down Sutherland's defence and looked happy with the point.

Avala shattered a weakened North Sydney 4-0 with two goals from Ruiz, and one each from Samuels and Pearson, while Riverwood played some entertaining soccer to beat a lethargic Canterbury 2-1.

Riverwood v Canterbury 2-1 (1-0)

Riverwood: Gisbourne, Bear, Butler, Blackburn, O'Donovan, Savor, Tracey, McCrorie, Langdon, Rydstrand, Bulloch.

Canterbury: McPherson, G. Brown, Binos, Pseudoiconomou, Lane, Barton, Thammides (Laws 75m), Williams, R. Brown, Basterfield, Bourke (Gill 81m).
Goals: 1-0 Langdon (2m), 1-1 Williams (55m), 2-1 McCrorie (82m).
Referee: N. Condron; Crowd: 200.

Avala v North Sydney 4-0 (1-0)
Avala: Ahrens, Lembray, Turnbull, Fairclough, Vujinovic, Ruiz, Youssef, Bateman, Samuels, D. Brown, Karanfilovski.

North Sydney: Katsavolas, Lucchesi, Stenning, Matheson, Retford, Mitchell, J. Morsello, S. Wilson, Termesana, Minuitolo (Silvestri 70m), T. Wilson (Marino 76m).

Goals: 1-0 Ruiz, 2-0 Pearson, 3-0 Ruiz, 4-0 Samuels.

Croatia v St. George 3-0 (2-0)
Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Pagano, M. Kovacic, Coleman, Vidaic, H. Silva, Steven, M. Silva, Borges, Hensman (Parker 79m).
St. George: Fraser, Duarte, Terry, Barton, Rylands, MacDonald, Davies, Stone, Campbell, Kanacki (Walker 80m), Marton.

Goals: 1-0 M. Silva (35m), 2-0 M. Silva (40m), 3-0 M. Silva (85m).

Croatia v St. George 3-0 (2-0)
Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Pagano, M. Kovacic, Coleman, Vidaic, H. Silva, Steven, M. Silva, Borges, Hensman (Parker 79m).
St. George: Fraser, Duarte, Terry, Barton, Rylands, MacDonald, Davies, Stone, Campbell, Kanacki (Walker 80m), Marton.

Goals: 1-0 M. Silva (35m), 2-0 M. Silva (40m), 3-0 M. Silva (85m).

It looks almost certain that the first division championship will be decided in the last round of the competition when Yugal meets Kuringal and the winner of the match wins also the championship.

This is how tight the competition has been all along as top teams fought for honours. Technically, three other teams Wollongong, Fairy Meadow and Blacktown are still in it but they are not likely to get another chance for the title.

Yugal seemed to have sealed the faith of Wollongong when they thrashed them 4-1 away, while Kuringal strolled to beat North Bankstown easily despite the close score.

Fairy Meadow had little trouble beating Penrith and Blacktown found their shooting boots to score five goals against Warrigah with Joe Ramisch scoring the only hat-trick of the round.

At the other end, Belmore and University fought out a 1-1 draw with another draw between Revesby and Gladesville, Guildford won at Bathurst to relieve their problems.

Highlights of this week's games

WOLLONGONG v YUGAL 1-4
It took only 15 minutes for Yugal to win this match as they capitalised on a weak defence and hammered three goals in that time.

It's hard to believe that Wollongong's defence, one of the best in any grade according to the records, can collapse and let three goals in a space of a few minutes.

Then, after they recovered, Wollongong turned on some really good football putting Yugal under pressure, but only one goal came out of it.

To make things worse, the Gongs also missed a penalty through Mick Terziowski hitting the post with the shot.
David Travini, Sam Babian and Denis McGrath scored for Yugal and Dean Gardner pulled one back for Wollongong.

Wollongong: P. Terziowski, Namouski (Drain), Talevski, Montecchie, H. Sattin, R. Sattin, Petkovski, M. Terziowski, P. Giraldi, R. Giraldi, Gardner. Coach: M. Johnson.

Yugal: Berry, Randall, Cummings, McIntosh, Clarke, Coldarevic (Mihalovic), Babian, Travini, McGrath, Rokodera, Tanoski. Coach: I. Takac.

FAIRY MEADOW v PENRITH 3-0
Despite being hard hit by injuries, Penrith still had a good start against the Fairies.

Within 15 minutes Steve Condon had the ball in the net to see it disallowed by the referee for offside.

Steve Baker opened the score for Fairy Meadow just before half time and led by that margin at the break.

Graham Gardner added another 15 minutes after the interval and he also finished the last goal five minutes from the end with a shot that was deflected into the net by May.

Fairy Meadow: Beck, Hamilton, Southwell, Chibby, Tinney, Charneck, Devenney, Richardson, Baker, White, Gardner. Coach: H. Tinney.

Penrith: Gibson, Pratt, K. Thoms, Dunn, May, Smith, Gordon, Anderson, Condon, Lamb, (Beamer), Timms, Briggs. Coach: S. Ackerley.

REVESBY v GLADESVILLE 1-1
Revesby is still finding it hard to score goals and in this game also missed a penalty.

Ian Harris in a hefty clearance had the misfortune of finding his own net with the game only one minute old.

Then Greg Gill missed the chance of equalising from the spot kick.

However, young Greg made amends when he scored the equaliser 15 minutes from the end to earn his side a valuable point.

Revesby: Wright (Blacklow), Larkins, Adams, Harris, Pittman, Judd, Sadek, Milford, Parkinson, Gill, Mackin. Coach: R. Harbour.

NTH BANKSTOWN v KURINGAI 2-3
Despite the score, Kuringal had very little trouble to earn their two points and keep ahead in the championship chase.

Billy Stewart scored twice in the first half to give them a boost even though a penalty for Norths right on the half-time whistle put them back in the game.

Richie Celark scored from the spot, but Keith Gould put them further ahead just after the resumption.

Craig Sullivan scored again for Norths.

North Bankstown: I. Madden, Parry (Pratten), Kymanias, D. Madden, Gallagher, Buckley, Thompson, Muir, Willemann (Mianth), Celark, Sullivan. Coach: D. Madden.

Kuringal: Antman, Haines, (Gross), Robertson, Sidey, Hammond, Williamson, Magill, Gould, Seach, McCranom, Stewart. Coach: H. Noon.

UNI OF NSW v

MELITA 1-1

With all players tensed up in this relegation battle, the game never reached any heights.

Craig Wannan having his second full game for the Students, found the net in the first half to give the bottom place team a lead.

However, there was little between the two sides as they struggled to keep each other out.

It was no surprise when replaced Graham Warren found the net in the dying minutes of the game giving Belmore a life saving point.

UNI OF NSW: Ridings, Russell-Jones (Kay), Erhardt, T. Popovich, Hughes, Daglis, V. Popovich, Kelly, Austin, Antoniouli, Wannan. Coach: A. Field.

Belmore: J. Hawthorne, G. Palmer, Cruger, Martin, Vergos, Kirwin (Warren), Murray, Gary Billingham, Parkinson, Coughton, Graham Billingham. Coach: O. Klaus.

BLACKTOWN v WARRINGAH 5-2
After a recession lasting about three games, Blacktown bounced back into calculations with a convincing win over Warringah.

Joe Ramisch, who has had some quiet games recently found his shooting boots to score a brilliant hat-trick.

United scored twice before half-time and three more after the break including goals by Steve Davidson and Peter Murray.

For Warringah who never stopped trying both goals were scored by Alan Sturgess, one from the penalty spot.

Blacktown: Evans, R. Ramisch, Ber, Eldridge, Foster, Taylor, Clarke, Thompson, (De Valle), Murray, Davidson, J. Ramisch. Coach: D. Zeman.

Warringah: Robins, Evers, Friend, Collings, Ainslie, Beverley, Sturgess, Byrnes, (Morris), Killie, Stenczyk, Pittman. Coach: A. Ainslie.

BATHURST v GUILDFORD 0-1
A goal by Dave Morrison 15 minutes from the end gave Guildford a relegation saving two points.

Territorially, Bathurst probably played the better and more constructive football but with Adrian Pickup completely out of touch they never looked like scoring.

The goal was engineered by striker Graham Robinson who made a precision pass in the centre for Morrison to snap into the net.

Bathurst: Lovett, Tait, G. Hadley, Ashford, Woodruff, Waine, Davis, Lamberton, Pickup, Fish, P. Hadley. Coach: S. Cousins.

Guildford: Freeman, McGlynn, Hunter, Glass, Allen, Stead, Morrison, Tait, (Metcalfe), Robinson, Miller, Stewart, (Mugelwish). Coach: M. O'Neill.

TURK - Israel's top soccer star
RIFAT TURK, one of the brightest stars of Israeli football, has become the first Arab to win the 'Footballer of the Year Award'.

The 25-year-old midfielder star of Hapoel Tel Aviv is a powerful player with a deadly right foot which has helped him to the top of the national league, writer SIMON GAZLER.

Having reached the top in Israel, Turk is determined to seek fame and fortune on the football fields of England. He follows Avi Cohen, at Liverpool, or Moshe Sarant and Yasser Cohen at Brighton, into the English first division, then the fact that he is an Israeli Arab is bound to attract attention.

"When I played for the Israeli national soccer team in the 1976 Montreal Olympics, all the journalists wanted to know my political opinions," he recalls. "But I am not interested in politics. I just enjoy playing football and I don't bother me if I'm playing with Jews, Arabs or Englishmen."

Whatever the reason for Turk's avoidance of political issues, on the personal level he clearly has no prejudices. He is the only Arab player at Hapoel Tel Aviv and the only one currently in the national team.

Turk was born and brought up in Jaffa, playing soccer in the back streets with anything that came by resembled a ball. When he was expelled from school for persistent truancy, he joined the Maccabi Sports Club of Jaffa. His outstanding skills soon attracted the Hapoel Tel Aviv scouts and he signed for them at 18.

Israeli players are officially amateur but all the top players earn considerable amounts of money. Turk's contract for this season is worth 27,000 - a good wage by Israeli standards, though his earnings must support his mother, seven brothers and a sister, since his father died three years ago.

Of course money is one of the magnets drawing him towards England but Turk takes pride in his football and feels he can best improve himself in British soccer. He spent last summer training with Ipswich, but they already had their quota of overseas players.

He claims to have many contacts in English football and is confident that several clubs are interested in him, although he refuses to mention names.

Certainly the last few seasons have seen Turk mature into a polished performer. He has been brought back into the national team by English coach Jack Charlton and in last year's World Cup game against Northern Ireland was man of the match. A thunderous long shot would have won the game, but for a spectacular save by Pat Jennings.

It Turk fulfils his dream of playing on the world stage, parties interested in the conflict of Jew and Arab may regard him as either an embarrassment or a symbol.

It will be an embarrassment for those who have no belief or interest in Jewish-Arab co-existence and a symbol of hope for those who feel sure it can be achieved.

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SPIDER'S NET

With
Allan Maher



Our trip to Fiji last week went off without much trouble and considering the circumstances the result was a very good one.

The weather and the ground conditions were not the best and an incompetent referee from Indonesia didn't help matters.

During the second half he let things deteriorate to such an extent that it's a miracle nobody was seriously injured.

Don't be surprised to see a few get-squares during the return match in Melbourne.

Dennis Boland of Footscray produced last week the best goalkeeping display I have seen this year.

He looked confident and handled extremely well and had that essential commodity which all goalies need — a little luck.

Even the master of short goalkeepers, Ron Corry couldn't help but be impressed.

It looks as though Croatia have all but sewn up this year's State League title, following last Sunday's great win over St George.

If Croatia do apply for PSL and are admitted, I feel they will do very well.

They have a very good set-up at King Tomislav club at Edensor Park and some very good players in their team.

A progressive committee and an excellent coach — what more is

needed to be successful?

Les Scheinflug is a hard taskmaster. Less than 24 hours after our win over Fiji, he had us out doing circuit training.

The circuit consisted of golf, swimming, volleyball, water-skiing, cricket, tennis, badminton and sun-bathing...

I guess it could have been worse...

FIJI ON AUG. 14

Australia's return World Cup match against Fiji will be played on Friday, August 14, at Melbourne's Olympic Park.

Eight days later Fiji plays New Zealand in Auckland.

The Friday date is a trifle unusual — especially in view of the fact that all Sunday's PSL games will have to go on.

Still, because of cancellations due to bad weather and airline problems, the PSL calendar is clogged up.

National coach Les Scheinflug, reasonably happy after the 4-1 win in Suva, is unlikely to make too many changes in the team.

The match against Fiji is causing only scant interest.

The Press hardly mentions the game and the usual hoopla — promotion, advertising and other activities — are completely lacking.

Youthmatch

The Australian World Youth Cup team will play a training match this week Wednesday at Cook Park, St Marys, starting at 8 pm.

Their opponent will be a Nepean-area team including players from Marconi, Blacktown, Mt Druiett, Penrith, Polonia and Auburn.

The proceeds will go to charity.

LETTERS

Dear Sir,

Congratulations on your excellent Editorial (From The Press Box — S.W. Vol 24, No. 28 of 23 July, 1981).

The only chance our game has of ever making one real progress in this country, is through a strong NATIONAL league.

To split the PSL into East West zones would finally put paid to any aspirations Australian Soccer ever had in standard and support.

The fact that some of our leaders are suggesting or even considering such a move, is a classic testimony to the history of soccer

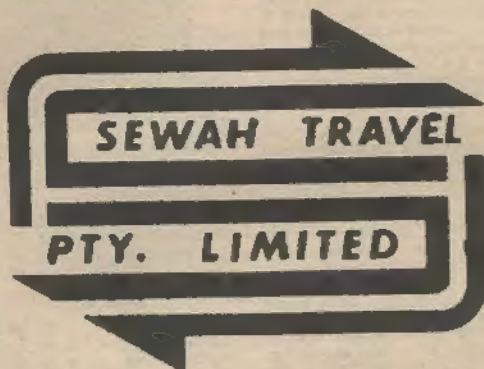
management in this country.

Yours Faithfully
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Modbury, SA.

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2 TO 6

IN NSW FEDERATION

With Val Hokin and Emmanuel Kanna.

Liverpool City and Robins (6th div) both hoped to take the lead in the competition in their clash. In a good, exciting, close match City were first to score when in the 20th minute a cross from Steven Kelly at the left wing was headed home by George Schymko at the far post, with the score remaining 1-0 to half time. Midway through the second half Robins, Mark Stanton got a pass to Mark Lewis, who scored the equaliser. Fifteen minutes later Mark Lewis had a chance to put Robins ahead but his attempt to convert a penalty saw City's keeper Darryl Edwards make a good save. In the last 10 minutes City had two good chances to go ahead when Doug Ujesehovic put a header and a sharp angled shot just over the bar, leaving the match with a fitting result of 1-1. Second grade saw Robins all over City, scoring in the 15th minute with a goal from Sean McCarthy. City equalised in the 35th minute with a goal from Alan Lawrence.

Dee Why (2nd div) took a 4-point lead in the competition last weekend with two 3-0 wins. Saturday, against Liverpool Albions, Dee Why dominated play early and at the 30th minute mark Ken Malam, taking a direct freekick, saw the ball deflected into the net by a Liverpool defender. Ten minutes into the second half Dee Why were awarded a penalty, converted by K. Malam. A further ten minutes and Ken Malam added the third goal for Dee Why with a drive into the bottom corner. Albions played a disappointing game which was not up to their standard of previous weeks. Best for Dee Why were centre half David Jones, midfielder Gary Spring and forward Steve White. Sunday saw their deferred match against Riverstone-Schofield. A hard even first half saw the half time scoreline on 0-0. Within 10 minutes of the second half, Ken Malam for Dee Why scored. He added their second goal, 15 minutes later when given a pass by Gary Spring. Sub Brian Soden headed home Dee Why's third goal from a Steve Dunwell cross to seal the game. Best for Dee Why were midfielders, John Brazell and Alan Dean and sweeper Greg Harper.

5th Sydney Districts (6th div), still plagued by injuries, gained a point in a strongly contested first grade match against Liverpool Utd last Sunday at Boorabee Park. United scored in the 10th minute while Mitch Mitchell equalised for Souths in the 30th minute. The remaining 60 minutes of the match was even with neither team able to add to the scoreline of 1-1. In second grade Souths proved too strong and took the points with a 3-0 win. Goals came from John Matheson and Jeff Gale with Liverpool conceding an own goal.

Blacktown Workers (6th div), in their match against Transandinos Sports, let the visitors call the tune with some very nice one touch football with Transandinos opening the score and quickly racing to a 3-0 lead. Workers came back in the 40th minute with a goal from Tino Rossi but this was short lived as Transandinos struck back, finding the back of the net just before half time after some good build up in midfield. In the second half, Workers showed a lot more determination although Transandinos scored twice. Workers still kept trying and in the 86th minute were rewarded when Keith Forward found the net.

Nth Ryde (2nd div) continued its undefeated run in the 2nd round in a close match at Nth Ryde Oval against Baulkham Hills. Right from the outset it was obvious that both teams were determined to take the two points to consolidate their position in the top four. Early in the first half Hills missed two very good chances as did Nth Ryde towards half time leaving the score 0-0 at the break. However, it was Nth Ryde's day and they settled down and had the better of play in the second half with good attacking moves which eventually resulted in midfielder Mark Lewin scoring the only goal of the match in the 67th minute. Baulkham Hills coach, George McCulloch, playing his first game for some time was awarded man of the match for the Hills side. Nth Ryde's 2nd grade had a good win to the tune of 6-0 and next week's top of the table clash against Mt Druitt Town will probably determine who takes out this competition. Baulkham Hills 3rd grade had a convincing 4-1 win which promoted them to the lead in their competition by one point over Campbelltown City. Nth Ryde was first to score early in the first half but the Hills gradually built up their game to make the score 1-1 at half time and add a further three goals in the second half. Hills scorers were Anthony Dyer (2), Tom Marshall and Tony O'Neill.

Under 18 representative team from Tarmoor require trial games in preparation for their matches in the West Highland Championship, in early October. The team is of a particularly high standard and are willing to travel and play any grade. Teams interested please phone (046) 80 9205.

West Holroyd (4th div) compensated for its recent topsy-turvy form by gaining 4 points from a double header played last weekend. Both games were played at home for a tally of 12 goals. The first game, a deferred one, was against the well placed Carley Heights and despite the fact that West Holroyd was playing with 10 men most of the time the home side managed to put 5 goals past the Heights goalkeeper. James Gewargis and Rodney Cook scored 2 goals each and David Abela added the fifth. On Sunday, West Holroyd played Winston Hills and in a game that was marred by two many fouls, 3 Hills players were sent off and as many received cautions.

The score at the interval was 4-0 and 3 more were added to give the home side a 7-0 win and the biggest defeat for Winston Hills this season. James Gewargis who was the top scorer with 3 goals followed by Emmanuel Isaac (2) and Rodney Cook (1).

Kingsford (3rd div) is now joint leader with Artamon after gaining 2 valuable points when playing away against the relegation threatened West Ryde Rovers. The first half saw only one good scored for Kingsford by Sandy Hopkins from a breakaway move which finished with Sandy tackling and passing the goal to score. After the interval West Ryde scored the equaliser but the survival was short lived as Kingsford again went ahead this time by a goal scored by the substitute George Kostakis. The goal was a beautiful diving header from a cross from the left by Steve Ververis. The last goal for Kingsford in the 1-4 win came from Peter Page who scored from close range after defeating the goalie, Charlie Younan, the Kingsford midfielder, put on one of his best performances.

Concordia (4th div) having gained another point from the 1-1 drawn game against West St George, need only one more win to secure the premiership title. This top game was even and dominated by attacks from both sides and by some excellent performances by both goalkeepers. West St George scored first from a penalty shot taken by Derek Mason and this lead was maintained up to the dying minutes of the game. West St George came close to scoring again when a powerful shot was brilliantly saved by David Southgate, Concordia's goalkeeper. In the 87th minutes of the game a long throw in by Nelson Rose was headed in by Jack Harper for the timely equaliser.

Bondi Marine (3rd div) entertained the leaders Artamon and sent the side away with their biggest defeat of the season. Artamon, now going through a bad patch, has lost 3 games in a row in which the side has conceded 11 goals, as many as it had conceded in the previous 15 games! Artamon played without any inspiration and never looked interested in protecting their premiership hopes, while Bondi were able to put it together and were all over the visitors. A header from Terry Hales from 30 metres out finished with the ball at the mercy of Ian McGovern who ran forward to beat the goalie and score. In the second half a high ball from midfield landed in front of Terry Hales who shot at goal while the goalkeeper was coming out to narrow the angle. The ball was flipped by the goalie but it fell down for Terry Hales who, this time, went on to score.

SCOREBOARD

COCA-COLA BOTTLERS STATE LEAGUE

GRADE 1

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Croatia	20	3	—	69	16	43
St George	20	2	1	82	11	42
Melita	15	5	3	50	17	35
Sutherland	11	5	6	29	18	27
Polonia	10	6	7	30	32	26
Monaro	8	6	9	34	43	22
Manly	7	5	11	29	30	19
R'wood	8	2	11	26	39	18
C'bury	6	8	11	32	47	18
N. Syd	5	5	13	26	48	15
Avala	6	4	13	26	50	14
Auburn	6	2	14	18	42	14
P'matta	5	3	15	20	54	13
Bankst	4	2	16	25	48	10

GRADE 2

Croatia	16	4	3	43	20	36
St George	13	6	4	63	22	32
Melita	13	6	4	41	14	32
Manly	11	7	5	42	25	29
C'bury	11	5	7	42	25	27
R'wood	10	7	4	33	19	27
Sutherland	10	6	8	40	38	19
Auburn	9	9	25	48	18	18
P'matta	5	8	9	20	44	18
N. Syd	7	4	12	22	49	18
Bankst.	6	4	12	26	36	16
Monaro	2	9	12	17	42	13
Avala	3	6	15	16	43	12
Polonia	4	3	16	16	44	11

GRADE 3

Bankst.	14	2	4	55	30	30
Auburn	14	1	5	48	17	29
Sutherland	13	2	4	46	18	28
R'wood	11	8	3	41	20	28
Manly	11	3	7	48	36	25
St George	12	—	9	38	25	24
C'bury	8	5	7	40	34	23
Melita	8	6	6	32	30	22
Croatia	6	5	9	34	50	17
Polonia	6	4	11	24	35	16
N. Syd	3	5	12	21	47	11
P'matta	3	2	15	18	51	8
Avala	1	1	18	18	70	3

DIVISION 1

GRADE 1

Kurlingai	15	5	3	44	17	35
Yugal	15	5	3	52	26	35
W'gong	14	4	5	48	18	32
Fairy Mdw	13	8	4	46	22	32
B'town	13	5	5	39	19	31
Bathurst	8	6	9	25	33	22
Warrington	5	9	9	42	48	19
Guildford	5	9	11	20	36	18
Gladesvil	4	9	10	24	33	17
Belmore	5	7	10	23	39	17
Revesby	3	9	17	39	16	16
N. Bankst.	5	5	12	30	42	15
Uni NSW	4	5	13	28	40	14
Bathurst	4	8	12	25	51	14

GRADE 2

Kurlingai	14	7	2	54	14	35
Fairy Mdw	14	5	4	50	19	33
Guildford	12	5	6	44	37	29
Gladesvil	11	6	6	34	22	28
W'gong	12	3	9	42	34	27
Penrith	11	4	7	30	24	26
B'town	9	7	7	29	24	25
Revesby	10	4	8	35	26	24
Yugal	9	5	9	28	28	23
Belmore	7	7	8	23	25	21
N. Bankst.	8	4	11	29	43	20
Warrington	3	7	13	28	47	13
Uni NSW	4	4	14	27	57	12
Bathurst	—	2	21	9	69	2

GRADE 3

Kurlingai	20	1	2	84	17	41
Gladesvil	16	5	1	59	18	37
Guildford	13	6	4	46	30	32
Belmore	13	4	5	57	26	30
Fairy Mdw	13	4	6	45	26	30
W'gong	13	4	6	48	30	30
Penrith	8	8	5	33	25	24
B'town	10	3	9	33	31	23
Bathurst	7	1	15	34	41	15

N. Bankst.	4	5	14	20	48	13
Revesby	4	2	16	28	51	10
Yugal	5	—	18	30	70	10
Uni NSW	2	6	14	14	65	10
Warrington	2	3	17	16	81	7

DIVISION 2

GRADE 1

Dee Why	12	4	2	37	12	28
Mt Druitt	11	2	5	30	12	24
Marrickv.	8	8	2	29	19	24
Baul Hills	10	3	5	34	19	23
Nth Ryde	11	1	6	27	19	23
Campbellt	8	3	7	34	25	19
Bonnyrigg	7	4	7	26	31	18
Queens P.	5	4	9	21	31	14
Riverst.	4	4	9	17	34	12
Lane Cove	3	5	10	21	34	11
Gladesv.	4	3	11	17	41	11
Liv Alb.	2	5	11	17	33	9

GRADE 2

Mt Druitt	13	3	2	49	22	29
N. Ryde	11	6	1	44	16	28
Liv Alb.	8	5	5	24	19	21
C'town	7	6	5	26	25	20
B'rigg	6	6	8	28	24	18
Dee Why	6	6	8	27	23	18
Gladesvil	6	3	9	20	29	15
Queens P.	4	5	9	23	36	13
R'stone	6	1	11	19	43	13
Lane Cove	4	4	10	23	29	12
Marrville	4	3	11	19	34	11
B. Hills	—	—	—	—	—	—

GRADE 3

B. Hills	13	2	3	57	15	28
Gladesvil	13	1	2	51	14	27
C'town	12	3	3	47	14	27
L'pl Alb.	12	3	3	45	18	27
Marrville	11	4	2	40	14	26
Mt Druitt	8	6	4	43	24	16
B'rigg	6	4	8	21	37	16
Queens P.	7	1	10	27	44	15
N. Ryde	5	2	11	30	53	12
Lane Cove	2	2	14	13	47	6
R'stone	2	2	14	20	59	6
Dee Why	—	—	—	—	—	—

DIVISION 3

GRADE 1

Artamon	9	5	4	45	23	23
K'ford	8	7	3	34	18	23
Wentley	8	5	4	43	25	21
Hurstville	8	5	4	23	25	21
Bondi	6	4	8	30	26	20
Eastern C.	6	7	5	21	26	19
Padstow	7	4	8	26	16	18
Paddingtn	6	6	5	23	26	18
Syd Uni	6	2	9	19	24	14
Fairfield K.	4	5	9	30	37	13
W. Ryde	3	6	9	21	40	12
P. Hack'g	4	2	11	18	47	10

GRADE 2

Eastern C.	13	2	3	39	18	28
Bondi	13	3	3	44	18	27
Fairfield K.	11	3	4	45	25	25
Padstow	11	2	4	46	25	24
Kingsford	9	4	5	37	28	22
Artamon	7	3	8	41	34	17
Wentley	5	5	8	32	35	15
Syd Uni	5	5	7	28	35	15
Paddingtn	5	4	9	27	32	14
Hurstville	4	5	8	22	35	13
West Ryde	3	4	11	18	37	10
P. Hack'g	—	2	15	18	70	2

DIVISION 4

GRADE 1

Concordia	12	4	2	35	18	28
W. Holyd	9	4	5	46	26	22
Fairfield W.	10	2	6	40	28	22
Canley H.	9	3	6	42	43	21
W. St Geo	8	4	6	49	40	20
N. Rocks	9	2	7	30	26	20
Chelsea	8	3	7	37	33	19
Winst. H.	6	6	6	36	36	18
Revesby	8	4	8	26	31	15
Eastwood	2	10	30	40	14	14
Maroubra	3	5	10	33	49	11
Ryde Dist.	2	1	15	19	53	5

GRADE 2

W. St Geo.	18	—	2	54	21	32
Fairfield W.	11	4	3	40	20	26
Canley H.	10	4	3	28	13	24
Concordia	9	5	4	24	19	23
Winst. H.	9	3	6	36	25	21
Eastwood	7	4	7	28	23	18
N. Rocks	4	9	5	12	14	17
Chelsea	6	5	7	29	32	17
W. Holyd	4	5	8	12	26	13
Maroubra	3	4	11	18	40	10
Ryde Dist.	1	5	12	19	45	7
Revesby	1	4	12	9	31	6

COCA-COLA BOTTLERS LEAGUE REPORT

By Paul James



MELITA ARE HIS BEST ADMIRERS

Without a doubt the most favoured son of the Melita fans is their mid-field star and number one penalty taker, Ray Farrugia.

He has been described as the most valuable member of the Melita team, but he would agree that he is only a cog — albeit a vital one — in the Melita machinery.

Ray was born in Malta in October 1, 1955 and came to Australia in 1978 after winning caps for Malta at both youth and full levels.

He played for Floriana of Malta in all three European Cups: Champions, UEFA and Cup-Winners, and had several profitable years with them.

brought into the first team and we had the two Farrugias in the line-up: Ray and Joe, who had been with us for many years.

"They weren't related, but they struck up a fine understanding on the field and we had a good season," Emmanuel added.

Joe left Australia at the end of 1979, leaving Ray as the midfield maestro — along with John Stoddart.

Together they masterminded the premiership winning Melita team last season.

But a lot of fans are wondering if Ray will also leave Australia.

"I don't know for certain, but it looks to me as

"He encourages the other players and gets the whole side moving if we strike a rough patch.

"His passing is a treat to watch and his all-round presence on the field has endeared him to the Melita fans."

Ray himself has said he admires the rest of the Melita team for their fighting qualities.

His burning ambition is to play in the Phillips League—preferably with Melita—and to make more appearances for Malta, if that becomes possible.

SMITH GAVE MANLY A NEW DIMENSION

"Most of the players are happy at the club and I personally hope that a majority of them decide to stay with us next year," said Manly's committeeman George Dick.

"We have never been ones to make wholesale changes at the end of the season," he said.

"If a player suits the team and fits into the club atmosphere, then we try and keep that player with us."

George said he felt the present team would stay together for the 1982 season.

"If we can keep them, then I think you'll see a much improved Manly," he said.

Manly officials have always been optimistic, but this time there seems to be some substance to the club's hopes.

The arrival of the Falconer brothers, Peter and Keith, at the start of the season gave the side experience and toughness.

But it was not until Terry Smith joined the club just over a month ago that the side began

to 'click'.

"Terry has fitted in perfectly," George said.

"His style of play annoys some people.

"They think he's not putting enough effort into the game, but he always plays with that seemingly casual air.

"However, it has proved effective for us, in both putting some composure into our game, and also some rhythm," he said.

George said that Terry's arrival was marked with two important goals.

"They were valuable goals that got us valuable points.

"However, opponents started to mark him tightly.

"But that backfired on them, as they gave more space to our other front runners, such as Stuart Reagan and David Jack, he said.

"The team is working well under Mick Jones and if we can entice him to stay, then I'm confident we can start off on the right foot next year," he added.

North just poor but not broke

Last week North Sydney fielded what could only be described as a depleted side.

As a result several officials from State League clubs again suggested that the club was broke, and had been unable to pay the first team regulars.

Club secretary Archie Blue said the reason was not so dramatic.

"The reason we had to field the younger players was because we have been stricken with injuries," he said.

"All three grades have literally been decimated, and we've been struggling to field three teams each week.

"We played without Mick Dale and Alex Bottalico last week, and the side had seven changes from our line-up of only four weeks ago," he said.

Archie said the club did have financial problems, but their troubles were similar to those of nearly every other State League team.

"It is impossible for the club to get money to run the team just from gate takings.

"And because we don't have a social club, we are in a precarious position," he added.

Archie said some of the young players that have been called on to fill first team places have performed very well.

"It can be very trying for a young player to have to make his first team debut in a side that is fighting near the bottom of the table," he said.

"But the lads have performed well."

Archie said Bob Stenning and Rocky Minutolo had impressed him in recent matches in

both reserve and first grade.

"That's why we gave them the chance in first grade last week.

"Bob is a fine defender, while Rocky, who joined us from APIA earlier this year, is turning into a good striker.

"What we have to achieve is a settled side.

"We have been plagued by injuries and players leaving the club for one reason or another," he said.

Archie said that last

year the team seemed to have a lot of luck.

"We were very rarely hampered by injuries to key players, but this year nearly everyone seems to have been sidelined for at least one week," he added.

"We will have to try and prepare the side better physically next year to build up their strength and reduce injury risks.

"That, and also try to keep our squad together," he said.

in brief

Bankstown's reserve goalkeeper Tyrone Patterson has been impressing club officials with his sound performances over the past couple of weeks and it looks as if the recently married Wally Lachowicz will have a tough job getting his position back.

Perhaps some replacements get too involved in the action too early.

Last week two replacements were sent off in separate matches after only being on the field a few minutes.

In the Melita-Polonia game, referee Tim Davies sent Polonia replacement Rylands off in the 70th minute after a bad foul on Don Allan.

He had only come on two minutes earlier to replace Ricki Budini.

And in the Parramatta-Manly match, Parramatta's Mitchell was sent off by Terry Seacey in the 85th minute after coming on in the 78th minute.

Croatia's gate takings last Sunday were reportedly a hefty \$18,700 — easily the best this year in Sydney for ANY club match. No wonder that from that sum and from the money collected around the terraces from eager fans, the Croatia players could get an Australian record bonus of \$600 a head.

Melita officials say Ray Farrugia will be back in the line-up this week after he served his one match suspension following a fourth yellow card against Auburn.

THIS WEEK

DIVISION 2

Lane Cove United v Riverstone Scholfields, Saturday, Pottery Green, Baulkham Hills v Gladesville/Hornsby, Saturday, Ted Horwood Res. Mt Druitt Town v North Ryde, Sunday, Popondetta Park. Liverpool Albion v Bonnyrigg, Sunday, Stanwell Oval, Marrickville/Rockdale v Dee Why, Sunday, Mackay Park. Queens Park EIS v Campbelltown, Saturday, Erskineville.

DIVISION 3

Kingsford v Hurstville-Zagreb, Sunday, Turruwili, Artarmon v West Ryde Rovers, Saturday, Artarmon Reserve, Port Hacking v Bondi Marine, Sunday, Seymour Shaw Park, Wentley Waratahs v Paddington, Saturday, Centenary Park. Fairfield Kiev v Padstow Park, Sunday, Knight Park No. 4, Sydney Uni v Eastern Creek, Sunday, University Oval 1, Port Hacking v Sydney Uni, Saturday, Seymour Shaw.

DIVISION 4

Easwood v Concordia, Sunday, Upper Eastwood Oval, Chelsea v Maroubra United, Sunday, Moore Park No. 12, Fairfield West v Ryde District, Saturday, Parkes, Canley Heights v North Rocks, Sunday, King Park, Winston Hills v Reversby Rovers, Saturday, Carrington Park, West St George v West Holroyd, Sunday, Eoval Park.

DIVISION 5

Macquarie Uni v Glenquarie Uni, Sunday, Macquarie Uni Oval, Haberfield v Pagewood, Saturday, Beaman Park, Camden v Sydney Maccabi, Sunday, Ponderosa Park, Edensor Park v Hawkesbury Dist, Sunday, King Tomislav Park, Chullora v Green Valley, Saturday, Jensen Park, Moorebank v Auburn Juniors, Sunday, Hammondville Park.

DIVISION 6

Trasandinos Sports v South Sydney, Sunday, Booralee Park No 2, Blacktown Wands v Blacktown Workers, Sunday, Grantham High School, Hajduk v Parramatta, Sunday, Hajduk St. Robins v Liverpool Rangers, Sunday, Pacilio Oval, Bankstown Sports v Liverpool City, Saturday, Condel Park, Liverpool United v Colo-Colo, Sunday, Childs Park.



Terry Smith



Ray Farrugia

On one of the trips abroad with Floriana, they travelled to Poland in the Cup-Winners tournament and the team was assigned a young Polish language student as an interpreter.

The girl, Katharine, is now Ray's wife, and is in Australia with him.

Their romance was naturally fraught with problems — Katharine living behind the Iron Curtain—but she joined him in Malta back in 1977 where they were married and then a year later they both came to Australia.

Melita's president Emmanuel Said says Ray originally came to Australia to develop his football experience and also to widen his travelling horizons.

"When he arrived here, he was about two or three weeks too late for us to use him in the first team as he had missed the transfer deadline," Emmanuel said.

"We knew he was a mid-field player, but we used him in second grade as an old fashioned winger — a role which he filled beautifully.

"In 1979 Ray was

If Ray has become very settled in Sydney and he and his wife could stay," Emmanuel said.

Ray is the most commanding figure in the Melita side, a role he has had to take on himself in recent weeks because of John Stoddart's illness.

"He is a poised, tough, goalgetter," said Emmanuel.



Joe Farrugia

FROM THE PRESS BOX

While the majority of clubs and club officials are coy about financial matters, quite a lot is known about their affairs.

For example, it's no secret that of the 92 English League clubs no more than six have made a profit last season — and the others are kept going through a range of fund raising activities, such as pools, bingo, etc.

Or take Argentina, for example, where River Plate's debt is now \$17 million, Boca Juniors owe about \$5 million and most of the other big clubs such as Racing, San Lorenzo, Talleres and Colon de Santa Fe are constantly on the verge of bankruptcy.

Fortunately, we are not dealing in millions yet in Australia — but it may come.

Still, on a more modest scale it's a known fact that all semi-professional clubs in the Philips and State League are being heavily subsidised to keep going.

Sydney City would probably take in through the gates no more than \$45,000 a season (my fear is that it's even less) — yet it must cost the club at least \$350,000 to run the team.

To a smaller extent perhaps, the same applies to the other clubs as well.

Where does all that money go? The bulk of it, undoubtedly, goes to the players who appear to be vastly and sinfully overpaid.

Their signing-on fees, retainers and bonuses have absolutely no relations to their crowd appeal but to the capacity of the "mother club" to find the cash.

That, in itself, is fair enough: these clubs are soccer clubs, gained their licenses as such and were established to support their soccer teams.

But it still makes you think why some of them think it's worth splashing money on average players who obviously cannot excite enough spectators to go and watch them.

I know that all our clubs are feeling the pinch and would dearly love to cut back wages and bonuses — but they don't know how.

And it's not easy. It's enough to have one club stepping out of line and beginning an inflationary spiral — the others must follow or face a quick decline in status.

But the real tragedy is not that some players earn \$10,000 or even more from soccer — the problem is that they do this in their spare time.

Consequently, they cannot be trained, coached, conditioned and disciplined as professional players.

"What do you want from part-timers," they ask in horror and they're right.

Clubs seem to have only two options: either to reduce their payments to part-timers — or to make them better paid full-timers.

Without one or the other, the present financial struggle of clubs will continue despite the frequent comings and goings of short-term sponsors.

• WORLD CUP BLUES

The devastating effects of the 2-0 loss to New Zealand in May are still being felt.

Last week, when Australia played Fiji in a World Cup(!) match, not a single reporter travelled with the team.

Of course, it has never occurred to the ASF to take a reporter with the official party to feed back news stories — all those free airline tickets are purely for junkies for officials, not for journalists.

But even if any of them had been offered a free ride, it's doubtful if he would have bothered to go.

World Cup interest died at the Cricket Ground months ago when Gutendorf's over-regimented and under-motivated team went through the 90 minutes with the enthusiasm of whipped slaves.

Now everything hinges on August 22 — the day Fiji plays in New Zealand where even a draw would re-open the qualification issue.

Is the ASF doing anything about that match? Are we smart and cunning enough to send a small coaching task force to Fiji to see if they can help prepare the team?

I bet not. Perhaps it's "not cricket" — but it would be worth a try.

Les Scheunflug, for instance, who knows New Zealand's strengths and weaknesses well — especially those who play in the PSL — could not spend a more useful two weeks in his life than by going to Fiji and doing everything possible to stiffen the resistance of Fiji's very ordinary players for the August 22 encounter.

Earlier this year Rudu Gutendorf went to Saudi Arabia to "spy" on our next round opponents — whom we are most unlikely to meet.

If that crazy exercise was worth the expense, I feel a mercy dash to Fiji would serve an infinitely better purpose.

• INNOCENTS

I never cease to be hugely amused by the innocence of some coaches and newspaper colleagues.

Time and time again, whenever a new player is about to arrive, they hail him as a Messiah sent here by providence in the nick of time to rescue a team in trouble.

Last week Olympic's Redfern and Sydney City's Houseman were "eagerly" awaited and, according to press stories, ready to march from airport to dressing room to transform their new sides into Real Madrids.

It's certainly not too flattering for the other players to read that a jet-fatigued newcomer is expected to perform the miracle 20 settled squad players couldn't do.

Of course, once the hysteria dies down, these life-savers are quickly forgotten.

It happened this year to Wright of West Adelaide, Murray of Sydney City, Massa, Gibson and Purdie of Canberra, not to mention those obscure "heroes" of Heidelberg and Footscray who can't even get a spot in their team now.

Ah, the grass is always greener on the other side...

— Andrew Dettre

Just what the doc ordered...



Dr Kukulski with part of his collection.

Where would you store or display 20,670 metal lapel badges in your home?

Well, you'd need about two full walls of a room — and a patient wife.

Dr Janusz Kukulski, a Polish doctor-soccer journalist-badge collector happens to have one.

He was visiting Australia last week, collecting material for a book on international soccer — his third.

When we met, he was telling us about his incredible badge collection — over 20,000 pieces from 153 countries.

Now he would like to add Australia to his list and he seeks exchange partners — people interested in collecting soccer programs, books, pennants and especially more badges.

Those interested should write to him: Janusz Kukulski, MD, Poselska 18/11, 31-022 Krakow, Poland.

BLACKTOWN OR PRESTON TO GO DOWN

WEST ADELAIDE IN 'DEATH ROW'

According to our calculations, 22 or 23 points may be needed to avoid relegation from the Philips League.

However, under some circumstances, even 21 may suffice.

We had a good look at the position of the relegation-threatened teams, their future commitments and records to arrive at some plausible forecast.

Some interesting facts emerged.

The two top title aspirants, Sydney City and South Melbourne, each meet only one team from the danger zone — Preston.

Brisbane Lions, on the other hand, will have yet to play four of the five and could become the

veritable litmus test.

We have arbitrarily removed Heidelberg from this group on two counts: they have played two matches less thus giving a deceptive picture of their position — and they are far too good a team to stay at the bottom.

The "Danger Five" will have six matches involving direct confrontations.

They are, with previous results in brackets:

• West Adelaide v Footscray (1-0, 1-2, 5-0, 0-2).

• Blacktown v Olympic (None).

• Blacktown v Footscray (3-0).

• Preston v. West Adelaide (None).

• West Adelaide v Olympic (1-0, 0-1, 0-0, —).

• Footscray v Olympic (1-0, 2-3, 0-1, —).

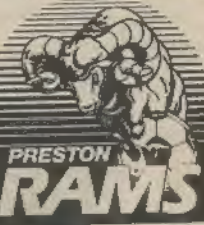
So West Adelaide is involved thrice (twice at home), Footscray and Olympic also thrice (only once at home).

Blacktown twice (both at home) and Preston once (at home).

This appears to give a slight edge to West Adelaide and Blacktown over the others.

The big question is — how many more points can the teams collect? Neither guessing nor mathematics can tell us that.

But one can "guesstimate" according to established trends.



These are the remaining programs of the teams involved:

	R/25	R/26	R/27	R/28	R/29	R/30
OLYMPIC*	Footscray	Lions	Blacktown	Newcastle	Leichhardt	Wollongong
FOOTSCRAY	Olympic	Heidelberg	W. Adelaide	Lions	Blacktown	Newcastle
PRESTON	S. Melbourne	W. Adelaide	Adel. City	Brisbane City	Syd City	Canberra
BLACKTOWN	Canberra	Marconi	Olympic	Heidelberg	Footscray	Lions
WEST ADELAIDE**	Heidelberg	Preston	Footscray	Adelaide City	Lions	Brisbane City

* Postponed match: West Adelaide. Bold type signifies home match.
** Postponed match: Olympic.

After Sunday's round, these were the average number of points won at home and away by the five teams (A) and, accordingly, the points likely to be won if these trends continue (B).

	A		B	
	Home	Away	Home	Away
Footscray	1.33	0.40	3.99	1.20
Olympic	1.00	0.75	2.00	3.00
Preston	1.16	0.41	3.48	1.23
Blacktown	0.75	0.58	2.25	1.74
W. Adelaide	0.80	0.23	4.00	0.69



Burrows, Blacktown.



Bozanic, Westad.



Footscray's home record is good, those of Preston and Olympic fair. Away from home, only Olympic have performed reasonably with Footscray and West Adelaide pretty hopeless on the road.

A big plus in Olympic's favour is that two of their away matches are in Sydney and a third at Wollongong — so they have to travel only once more this season.

If you round off the percentage "trend figures" (Table B) this is the likely outcome at the end:



	Pts now	Points to come	Total
Olympic	20	6	26
Footscray	21	5	26
Preston	19	4	23
Blacktown	16	4	20
West Adelaide	11	5	16

SOCCER WORLD

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